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ANCESTRY AND KIN  
OF THE  
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COWDEN AND WELCH FAMILIES.

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REV. JAMES MARCUS WELCH,

Indiana, Pennsylvania.

January, 1904.

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JOSEPH COWDEN

MARK COWDEN  
MARY COWDEN WELCH

ROBERT COWDEN



# THE ANCESTRY AND KIN OF THE COWDEN AND WELCH FAMILIES.

## INTRODUCTION.

Good health and open-air exercise make red blood which is by all odds the best kind to have. No scientist has yet discovered a blue corpuscle in anybody's blood. It is not at all the purpose of the friends who have requested these notes, to lay claim to any other hue or tint of blood than that same rich shade wherewith the Creator has supplied the whole human race. We believe "that all men are created free and equal," also that God "hath made of one blood all nations of men."

Just as money in the bank gives a man a measure of credit, and as the ownership of a home gives him some comfort, so the knowledge that his lineage is clean and sturdy contributes justly to his self respect. As the English Essayist, Addison, has said, "Title and ancestry render a good man more illustrious, but an ill man more contemptible."

A little gleanings in literature reveals a variety of aspects from which the subject may be viewed and by a consideration of these the reasonable and right opinion is obtained. Juvenal, the old Roman satirist, asked his friend, "What advantage to you is it Ponticus, to quote your remote ancestors and to exhibit



their portraits?" A similar scorn for the vaunting boaster is in the lines of Pope,

"What can enoble sots, or slaves, or cowards?  
Not all the blood of all the Howards."

When Marco Bozarris calls to his countrymen, his valiant cry thrills all true hearts, for there is a debt owed to our forefathers.

"Strike! for your altars and your fires,  
Strike! for the green graves of your sires,  
God and your native land."

It is in accord with the same noble note that we sing our national anthem:

"My country 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty;  
Of thee, I sing.  
Land where my fathers died,  
Land of the Pilgrim's pride,  
From every mountain side,  
Let freedom ring."

It is very plain that the registered pedigree of high-bred stock is a mere convenience for keeping the strain true to its well developed standard. There is not a single variety of domestic animal that has been subjected to careful study and culture that does not emphasize the saying that "blood will tell." Surely the same laws of selection apply to mankind. The German child differs from the French child not by reason of climate, nor education, nor language, but in ancestral temperament and blood.

While the "penniless lass wi' a lang pedigree" may not be able to compete with the rich girl with more brains, she will ordinarily outdistance her if the



gift of brains is equal. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes knew the fibre of the American women of the Revolutionary period when he remarked that "the way to study a child is to begin with its grandmother."

Titles pass to the first-born; which is artificial. Traits pass to all the children, and, indeed, there is some evidence that heredity more richly endows the younger sons. "The rank is but the guinea's stamp, the man's the gowd; for a' that and a' that," quoth Burns.

Both Tennyson and Edwin Arnold have some beautiful lines which declare that worth and not birth is the measure of the man.

"Howe'er it be, it seems to me,  
'Tis only noble to be good.  
Kind hearts are more than coronets  
And simple faith than Norman blood."

—Tennyson.

In the Light of Asia the other poet says:

" \* \* \* There is no caste in blood,  
Which runneth of one hue; nor caste in tears,  
Which trickle salt with all; neither comes man  
To birth with tilka mark stamped on the brow  
Nor sacred thread on neck."—Arnold.

Since so much of what shall follow has to do with those whose origin goes back at last to old Scotland and becomes obliterated in that land where clanship and family ties were deeply revered we may present a few stirring lines from Sir Walter Scott as to how traditions are carried from age to age, as hearthstones





are bequeathed, and as blood is transmitted from one generation to another.

“Still from sire the son shall hear,  
Of that stern strife and carnage drear  
Of Flodden's fatal field,  
When shivered was fair Scotland's spear  
And broken was her shield.”

The most ancient nations of the world are venerated of ancestry. The Chinese worship the tablets upon which the names of their ancestors are engraved. The Hebrew entrusted to the priesthood as one of his sacred duties the keeping of the family genealogies.

“So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.”—Matthew 1:17.

The results of arithmetical progression in ancestry are almost as amazing as Abraham's progeny becoming like the sands of the sea for multitude

Number of ancestors one generation back	2
Two generations	4
Three generations	8
Four generations	16
Ten generations	1,024
Twenty generations	1,048,576
Thirty generations	1,073 741,824

What astonishing results the figures would show in 1,000 years, or at the time of Alfred king of England. If there were no cross lines, which after the tenth generation back are very frequent, one thousand years of national existence is sufficient to make the



people from beggar to king literally and actually of one blood. It is said that "from coat sleeves to coat sleeves is three generations." Less than thirty is sufficient to reduce thrones and hovels, pulpits and prisons, to a common dust from whence those that now live were all created.





# ANCESTRY AND KIN OF THE COWDEN FAMILY.

## CHAPTER I.

Explaining that Living Posterity Occasion More Difficulty to the  
Historiographer Than Departed Ancestry.

No methods of arrangement to show the proper relations and descent of the persons and families referred to in a genealogical record are wholly free from confusion. Nor can errors be avoided in matters of minor importance, nor dissatisfaction in the personal facts of persons now living. The chief object of search has been the forefathers and not the posterity. The past is fixed, the present is changeable. Blank space is provided where each one may insert the facts of his own family with accuracy and completeness; where also errors may be corrected.

In view of the large correspondence involved, the tedious censorship and arrangement of misfit information, and the frequent periods wherein the notes have been wholly laid aside for a considerable time, it is hoped that a ready pardon will be accorded for all imperfections. If other information relative to the subject before 1800 is known to any reader, please address the writer at Indiana, Pa.

For two centuries the ancestors of my mother, Mary Cowden Welch, have been Scotch-Irish Presby-



terians. All of them since the Declaration of Independence have been citizens of Pennsylvania. The excellence of her character as a mother and as a Christian gentlewoman lead me to think it not unworthy to attempt the preservation of some knowledge of the stock from which she sprung. While the fruit borne upon the collateral branches of the family tree may interest some readers more, yet, for convenience and simplicity, all these notes will bear a natural relation to my good and lovable mother.

Mary Cowden Welch.

John Cowden 3d wed Mary Kelso, her parents.

John Cowden 2nd wed Annie Sloan.

Mark Kelso wed Elizabeth Ewing, her (4) grandparents.

John Cowden 1st wed Mary Reynolds.

David Sloan wed Mary —————,

George Kelso wed Jane Kerr.

James Ewing wed Mary McCown, her (8) great-grandparents.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE COWDENS.

Nice People to Know, Who Are Commended to the Gentle Reader's Acquaintance From Their Very Origin.

The name Cowden is of unknown origin and date. The last syllable is equivalent to the word dale or valley. It is the name for a race of farmers and herds-men. A name like this would come into existence in connection with only one individual or locality. Wherefore all of the name are akin if we be but able

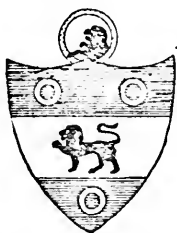




to trace them back far enough; not necessarily beyond Noah.

Trade names such as Mason, Weaver, Smith, or surnames like Jones, Roberts, Wilson, or character names, as White, Scott, Stewart, may spring up time after time in many different localities. Cowden is the name of some old homestead or estate. The earliest trace of the name is found in the south of Scotland where is a place called Cowdenbeath, not far from Edinburg.

The coat of arms assigned to the family of our first ancestral immigrant who came from the north of Ireland is the same as the arms of the Scotch stock of Cowdens. In heraldic language the Cowden arms



are Azure; fesse argent; three annulets or; lion passant sable. Crest: demi-lion sable, charged with an annulet or; which means in the ordinary vernacular, a sky blue shield bearing three gold rings separated by a wide white

band upon which is a black lion in the act of walking. The crest, a golden ring encircling the head and shoulders of a black lion. The arms bear some indication of belonging to the middle of the sixteenth century on account of their simplicity and because they were evidently acquired before the family sent any of its representatives to Ireland. There were Cowdens in Ireland by 1670 who were of this Scotch stock, yet they were not of great estate sufficient to have secured arms. The same escutcheon is known



to a New York State family of Cowdens descended from Robert Cowden, of Ireland, of which Mr Levi D. Cowden, of Fredonia, N. Y., is a member. Information of others of the name in Illinois and West Virginia of entirely unknown relationship has been encountered.

Beginning in 1608 and for twenty years thereafter, what is known as the plantation of Ulster, the northern district of Ireland, took place. King James 1st upon coming to the throne of England is said to have made two hundred baronets the first year, bartering the honor for gain, frequently bestowing it for the price of £2,000. Not only was he an impecunious and covetous king, but he was surrounded by a horde of favorites equally hungry for plunder. The confiscation of Irish estates owned by Catholics was popular with the court. It gave rise to a plan for the wholesale betterment of the king and the kingdom, both religiously and otherwise. The troublesome district of Ulster was to be transformed into a region less given to rebellion and disloyalty. The Catholic great folk and their tenantry were driven from their homes by royal armies and their estates parcelled out among eager Scottish dependants who were pledged to re-people the lands with thrifty and loyal Scotch Protestants from the adjoining coasts where Presbyterians flourished. These lowland farmers and weavers were industrious and devout and were doubtless of Celtic or Irish blood some generations back, for the Scotch are said by historians to have crossed from Ireland about 500 A. D., during



that dark period after the Romans had abandoned their British colony.

The north of Ireland has remained peaceable and prosperous and Protestant, and is in striking contrast with the southern Catholic part. In 1641 a cruel uprising took place in which it is said to have been planned that the Catholics should slaughter in a single night their Protestant neighbors and regain their ancestral homes. The discovery of a part of the plot led to its failure as a whole, but it is said that before the troubles ended 40,000 Protestants were slain. The bonds between Ulster and Lowland Scotland grew stronger as generations passed. Ministers were sent from one to the other neighborhood. Trade and family visitation were maintained.

### CHAPTER III.

Paxtang on the Susquehanna and the Colonial Cowdens.

The first of our Cowdens probably went to Ireland about 1620. Their establishment was gradual, but they seem not to have forgotten that they were of Scotch blood. The first Cowden ancestor known to us was doubtless of Irish birth, but of this good Scotch stock. The place of his birth is not now known, the date probably was a little before 1700. His name was *William Cowden*. In the year 1728 or 1729 his son, *Matthew Cowden*, said farewell to his father's family and to his friends and started upon the long and hard voyage to the colony of Pennsylvania in the



new world, all unknown but all attractive, where William Penn and the Quakers had established a model government based upon equity and liberty and where they offered a generous welcome to all hardy pioneers who came with the intention of building up their own and the commonweal's good fortunes,

*Matthew* landed at Philadelphia and made his way through the farmsteads of the Quakers and the Palatinate Dutch to the banks of the Susquehanna river, which was then the frontier. There, upon the river's eastern bank, near the present city of Harrisburg, the capital of the State, he settled. In this locality in the township of Paxtang there soon grew up a vigorous settlement of Irish Presbyterians and Covenanters from Scotland.

From 1730 to 1750 every ship brought its load of immigrants from north Ireland. They came at the rate of 12,000 a year to the settlements in Penn's Colony, driven by famine, high rents, oppression, love of adventure, the desire for independent possessions and for free religion. They almost invariably pushed out to the verge of civilization and with axe and gun, with dog and hog and horse, won their cabin homes from the rude wilderness. The dog was hunter and defender; the rooting porker helped the axman make the clearing for the sowing of the first little patch of Indian corn, and roamed the forest fattening upon the oak and beech mast, preparing himself to supply food for the winter to supplement the pone and hominy and mush which the little cornfield furnished. Often the settlers ignored the claims of the proprietors at Philadelphia and of the Indians alike, as far as payment for





the land was concerned. These pioneers preserved their racial clannishness and their devotion and humor and courage, and it was never long until a Scotch-Irish community had a church and then a school. Their adventuresome enterprise and their sturdy independence made them less desirable to the Quakers than some others. You may judge whether the Quaker policy of purchasing from the Indians by treaty extensive lands for a mere pittance and reselling the farms to the incoming settlers at a pretty good profit was more moral than that of the Irishman who held title by virtue of occupation and improvement and stood ready to fight the red man should he offer to contest the claim; or if the proprietors bore too heavily with their prices, their taxes, and their laws, he was ready to blaze a new trail into the deeper wilderness. Such were called "tomahawk claims" and were at least respected by neighboring settlers.

*Matthew Cowden*, perhaps by attending the preaching services which at the first were held in the grand shadowy cathedrals of the forest, or by helping some good neighbor at a house-raising, or through his acquaintance with the merriments of the young people, made discovery that one thing further was needful as both household luxury and necessity, so in the year 1730 he married the girl he loved whose name was *Martha Johnston*, a name which points to the same Scotch origin as himself. In 1749 he is recorded as paying taxes upon 300 acres of land situated upon the left bank of the Susquehanna river in the present township of Paxtang and the county of Dauphin. In



1754 he signed a call for the pastoral service of Rev. John Elder. The date of the call was September 26th and it was to the old Covenanting church a little distance from Paxtang village. This godly man acted as captain for a little company of riflemen who were organized to guard against the possibility of Indian depredations.

In 1764 *Matthew Cowden* testified in court to having remonstrated with old Seaheas, the Indian chief who had his camp on the river bank nearby, for harboring so many strange and suspicious Indians. This was prior to the so-called Paxtang massacre, a reprehensible affair due to the excited and inflamed sentiment of the neighborhood. A number of Christian Indians, who were converts of the Moravian missionaries, were killed by a band of Scotch Irish who called themselves "The Paxtang Boys."

The beginning of the disgraceful enterprise is more likely to have been the excited action of roisterers from some tavern than by the deliberate purpose of members of the congregation over which Minister Elder presided. There is no certainty that any of the Cowdens or Kelsos were concerned in it. The destruction once having been committed the whole settlement was ready to aver that there had been great provocation. If the Presbyterians were not too saintly to become such ruthless avengers it is to be remembered that the Moravian Indians were not totally sanctified either. Some of their kindred and visitors were the unconverted wild, treacherous savages of the war-path. The converted Indians were not always temperate; and a drunken Indian was proof of the



possibility of reversion to type. The government of the colony at that period was by the Proprietors and their advisers in Philadelphia. The petitions of the settlers for protection on the frontier were disregarded. They must defend themselves. By being friendly with the Indians the Proprietors could expect to make further purchases of lands on good terms. The Paxtang Massacre is thus prejudged in Proud's old History of Pennsylvania:

"On Wednesday, the 14th of December, 1763, fifty-seven men from some of our frontier townships all well mounted and armed with firelocks, hangers and hatchets, having travelled through the country by night to Conestoga Manor, they surrounded the village huts at break of day. Only 3 men, 2 women and 1 boy were found at home, the rest being out among the neighbouring white people to sell their baskets, brooms and bowls. These poor defenceless creatures were fired upon and stabbed and hatcheted to death. The good Sheahas, among the rest, cut to pieces in his bed. All of them were scalped and otherwise horribly mangled."

The magistrates of Lancaster sent to collect the remaining Indians and promised them protection. They were placed in the workhouse as the place of greatest safety. "Suddenly on the 27th of December fifty armed men came to the town, broke open the door and fell upon the 14 defenceless Indians. They all received the hatchet, men, women and children, inhumanly murdered in cold blood. But it seems that these people, being chiefly Presbyterians, think that they have a justification for their wickedness in the command given to Joshua in the scriptures to destroy the heathen and possess the land." The excited whites with numbers greatly increased threatened to march on Philadelphia, where 140 Wyalusing Indians were harbored, etc., etc. "Sheahas had signed the second treaty with Wm. Penn in 1701 and had ever since been faithful to the English and was naturally of a most kind and benevolent nature."



The matter was the occasion for the outburst of acrimonious political dissension. Benjamin Franklin wrote a biased and distorted pamphlet for political purposes, which, however, led to his defeat in the election to the Supreme Executive Council, after 14 years of service. He said in a dialogue between Andrew Truman and Thomas Zealot, that "Saunders Kent, an elder these thirty years, that gaed to duty, and while he was sayin' grace till a pint o' whiskey, a wild lad ran his gully (knife) through the wame of a heathen wean." This, says Dr. Egle in his History of Pennsylvania, lacks the first element of a good lie, in that he makes the Presbyterian talk like an English Churchman to whom saying "grace" is a peculiar idiom. (Hist. Penn. page 119.)

The Presbyterians furnished affidavits that Teedyuscung confessed that his complaints against the settlers were encouraged by prominent Quakers; that the Christian Indian, Rénatus, was notoriously bad; that those who were killed were drunken, quarrelsome and dangerous; that the Indian who murdered Simpson was harbored in Philadelphia, etc.

Governor John Penn writing to his brother, Thomas Penn, Nov. 11th, 1763, says, "I have had petitions every day from the frontier inhabitants requesting assistance against the Indians who still continue their ravages in the most cruel manner." In another, "It is beyond a doubt that many of the Indians now in town, (alluding to the Moravians) have also been concerned in committing murder upon the back settlers."

John Harris, whose son was founder of Harris-





burg, had requested the government concerning the Indians at Conestoga, "The Indians here I hope your Honor will be pleased to have removed to some other place, as I do not like their company."

Rev. Elder, who was colonel of the company of Rangers, a part of whom were guilty of the massacre, had written under date of Sept. 13, 1763, "I suggest to you the propriety of an immediate removal of the Indians from Conestoga and placing a garrison in their room. In case this is done I pledge myself for the future security of the frontiers."

The Executive Council discontinued the pay of Col. Elder after the Paxtang event, endeavoring to inflict a punishment without process of an investigation to justify it, and in the letter announcing this decision Gov. Penn tendered "thanks for the good service performed and for the care and prudence of his military career."

On turning from this subject in which the Scotch-Irish have been so frequently held up for execration as monsters of barbarity, let us quote from a report of Col. Elder's in regard to his visit to Wyoming after the Connecticut settlers had been driven off by the Indians in the first massacre that that unhappy valley experienced in 1763.

In November, 1762, at a treaty at Lancaster, Teedyuscung told the Governor:

"You may remember that some time ago I told you that I would be obliged to remove from Wyoming on account of the New England people. There came 150 of these people declaring they had bought the land from the Six Nations. I threatened them hard and declared I would carry them to the Governor at Philadelphia."



They had first arrived in 1762, returned home in the winter and came again in May with others from Connecticut.

Suddenly and without the least warning the skulking mauraunders attacked the settlement, killed twenty, drove the others out of the country and burned the abandoned settlement. It appears that late in September, 1763, a force under Rev. John Elder and Capt. Ashur Clayton, with 200 men for 20 days, visited Wyoming for the purpose of destroying the stores of corn left there. Col. Elder's report is as follows:

"Our party under Capt. Clayton has returned from Wyoming, where they met no Indians, but found the New Englanders who had been killed and scalped a day or two before our party got there. They buried the dead, nine men and one woman, who had been most cruelly butchered. The woman had been roasted and had two hinges in her hands supposed to have been put there redhot, and several of the men had awls thrust in their eyes and spears, pitchforks and arrows sticking in their bodies. They burned the houses the Indians had left and destroyed a quantity of corn, etc., etc."

Such were the fearful atrocities that made our forefathers rabid haters of the redskins.

Strange as it appears the Scotch-Irish have been blamed for these Wyoming murders. *They* had no occasion to disfavor the settlements of the Connecticut immigrants. It was the Quaker government that was vexed by their coming; the very government that was on such friendly terms with the wily old Teedyuscung, who was the cause of troubles west of the mountains as well as here, for he had disposed of lands in treaty which he had no claim to, and which when the govern-



ment sold to the settlers, were fought for by the tribes that repudiated the Delaware chief's right to barter hunting grounds of theirs.

*Matthew Cowden* and his wife probably are buried in the old Covenanter church-yard some six miles out from Harrisburg, not in the old Paxtang cemetery where the family of his son, Captain James, are buried.

*Matthew Cowden* had eight children, of some of whom only the names have been discovered. 1. William, born Jan. 11th, 1731. A revolutionary soldier who took the oath of allegiance Aug. 27, 1777. He served through the war and died at Yorktown of camp fever in 1782 aged 51 years. 2. Margaret, born 1733, and wed John Gilchrist. Two of their children were Martha Gilchrist, who married John Bell in 1782, and Matthew Gilchrist, who wed Elizabeth Crouch in 1781. 3. John, born 1735, our ancestor, who shall be spoken of hereafter as *John Cowden I.* He died in 1776. 4. James, born June 16th, 1737, and died Oct. 10, 1810, suddenly, aged 73. His wife was Mary Crouch, born 1757, and died 1848 aged 91. She was a daughter of Capt James Crouch, of Virginia. The marriage was March 20th, 1777. This James Cowden was an ardent patriot as, indeed, were the rest of the family, which gave three sons to fight for liberty. He was captain of 114 men under Colonel James Burd in the Continental Line. He served at Fort Washington, through the Jerseys, at Brandywine, Germantown and in the North-western part of the State against Indians. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church in the village of Paxtang and a generous contributor to its



support. Oct. 5th, 1780, he is reported as owning one slave, Barbarra, aged 13 years. Oct. 2nd, 1795, he became associate judge of Dauphin County and filled with honor his office of trust and in 1809 he was a presidential elector and voted for James Madison. His grave is marked in the yard of the old stone church at Paxtang village. He had seven children: First, Hannah, born 1778, wed John Cochran; second, Martha, born 1780, wed with William Boyd; third, Margaret, born 1782; fourth, Elizabeth, born 1784, died 1837, wed with William Gilmore; fifth, Matthew Benjamin, wed Mary Wallace; sixth, James; seventh, Mary, who in 1821 married Joseph Jordan.

Doubtless some further information of his descendants could be found by careful study of court records at Harrisburg.

To resume the record of his father's family: 5. the fifth child of *Matthew Cowden* was Mary, born 1739, died 1809, aged 70, wedded to David Wray. My mother has spoken of a youthful recollection of some of her aunts having visited the Wrays. Thus the Washington county line of Cowdens had some slight touch with the branch east of the mountains, as well as with those that settled in Ohio. 6. Elizabeth, born 1741, married Robert Keys. 7. Rebecca, born 1743. 8. Benjamin, born 1745. He moved to South Carolina and was killed by Tories there. We wonder if he was married and went to the settlement of Scotch-Irish in the vicinity of Charleston and was marked by his patriotic zeal as a victim for destruction by the Tories. Perhaps South Carolina's revolutionary records would have a line about him. These distant settlements were under the same church synod.





## CHAPTER IV.

The First John Cowden and His Widow, Who Was a Woman  
of Vim.

It has already been stated that the third child, *John Cowden I* was born 1735 at Paxtang and died 1776. He was 41 years of age. About 1750 he married *Mary Reynolds* and they had twelve children.

James, when a young man went to Kentucky and trace of him is lost.

Joseph, born 1765; William, born 1774, and Reynolds, moved to Ohio and more can be said of them.

*John*, born 1758, to be known as *John Cowden II*, our ancestor.

Esther wed David McNary.

Margaret wed James Scroggs.

Jane wed Thomas Hanna.

Isaac Patterson, born 1776, the youngest, a physician.

Three children who perhaps did not live to maturity.

The fuller record of these persons follows before the history of the next direct ancestor, *John Cowden II*, is given.

*John Cowden I*, had the spirit of a true pioneer; he set his face toward the west resolved to conquer the perils of the way and find a home among the fertile waters that flowed toward the Ohio. He removed from Paxtang with his wife and children at a time when his family was both large and small. Over the mountains and all the way to Fort Pitt was almost



impenetrable wilderness. The settlements were few and far apart. This was before even the Conestoga wagon was invented as a means of transportation over the rough and hilly roads. His way was but a blazed trail often unmarked by previous wheels. An account of a journey from Lancaster to Canonsburg in Washington county, Pa., by wagon and horseback about 1800 has been read. Three weeks were occupied by this journey of 250 miles which was over the military road which six years before had been used by one section of the army of 15,000 sent to quell the whisky insurrection in Washington and adjoining counties. The route was then generally followed by incoming settlers. The way is described as wild and rugged and perilous, and frequently no inns were upon the road from one day's travel to another. What must have been the inconveniences and dangers forty or fifty years earlier when *John Cowden I* contemplated his trip? It was a greater undertaking than he realized, and he did not live to complete it.

In 1756 Col. John Armstrong with 307 men, many of them recruited from the neighbourhood of Harrisburg and Paxtang, crossed the Alleghenies and followed the Juniata to the Kiskiminetas and attacked the Indian town of Kittanning, on the Allegheny river, and destroyed it. The atrocities of the French and Indian war made this region uninhabitable before and until several years after this signal blow had been struck. It was doubtless the plan of *John Cowden I* to follow the trail of the Armstrong expedition as his destination is said to have been the Crooked Creek country. This creek is situated in Indiana county,



but there is no record of the name of Cowden in the counties of Indiana and Armstrong in the registry of land transfers. Another Crooked Creek is in North Bedford County. It is not unlikely that he made several stops, tarrying in a place that suited him as well and that was safer for a man with a family of children. In 1776 he was near Cumberland, Maryland, at Conacocheague (Indian name Gu-ne-uk-is-schick, meaning, Indeed a long way) which is a village on a creek of the same name that flows southward from the beautiful Cumberland valley of Pennsylvania and enters the Potomac river. The village is in Maryland, but before the running of the Mason and Dixon line it was counted a Pennsylvania settlement. Of the white prisoners recovered from the Indians at the taking of Kittanning, Ann McCord, Martha Thorn, and Margaret Hood were from the Conacocheague neighborhood. In August, 1776, *John Cowden I*, died here. This was about half way to the Ohio river by the southern passes. It is notable that in our day the northern route along the blue Juniata is followed by the Pennsylvania railroad, while the southern pack horse trail is in general the course of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad from Pittsburg to Cumberland.

Upon the night of his death their horses were stolen, whether by Indians or Tories is unknown. A few weeks thereafter a child was born to the widow, *Mary Reynolds Cowden*, being her twelfth child. She called him Isaac Patterson Cowden, after a neighbour who had been kind and helpful to them in their trouble and bereavement. These facts come through letters written by descendants of that child. *John Cowden* was



said to be buried in Cumberland, which is doubtful. Whether a visit to that old town and to the neighbourhood of Conacocheague and Chambersburg would reveal any further information is uncertain, but it would arouse many interesting suggestions and associations.

After some few years *Mary Reynolds Cowden* removed to Washington County, Pa., with her family, by the natural route through the Cumberland Gap, via Casselmans, Confluence, Uniontown, Brownsville, (formerly called Parkinson's Ferry and Old Redstone Fort) to Canonsburg. Her oldest sons were now stalwart men, but the hardships of the journey by pack horse and wagon or by times on foot was such as required a staunch and resolute spirit in any woman. In 1787 Mrs. Cowden received a patent of land from the young Commonwealth as follows:

STATE } Supreme Executive Council of the Common-  
SEAL, } wealth of Pennsylvania.

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

KNOW YE, that in consideration of the sum of two pounds, five shillings and ten pence, lawful money, paid by Mary Cowden into the Receiver General's office of this Commonwealth there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said Mary Cowden, a certain tract of land called *Hornhead*, situated upon the waters of Chartiers creek in the County of Washington. Beginning at a corner white oak, thence by land of George McComb S. 88 degrees E. 149 perches to a white oak, thence by land of John Berry, S. 9 degrees E. 167 perches to a white oak, thence S. 35 degrees W. 17 perches to a white oak, thence by David Rankin's land W. 88 degrees W. 134 perches to a post, and N. 16 degrees W. 182 perches to the place of beginning; containing 154 acres and 35 perches, strict measure, with the appurtenances thereof. Which tract was surveyed for said Mary Cowden in right of David Rankin, in pursuance of the orders of the Board of Property on the 15th of Sept. 1784. For whom a warrant of acceptance issued the 24th day of January instant; to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with the appurtenances unto the said Mary Cowden and her heirs, to the use of the said Mary Cowden, her heirs and assigns forever, free and clear of all restrictions and reservations as to mines, royalties, quit rents or otherwise,





excepting and reserving only the fifth part of all gold and silver ore for the use of the Commonwealth to be delivered at the pit's mouth free of all charges. In witness whereof the Honourable Charles Biddle, Esquire, Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council hath hereunto set his hand and caused the State Seal to be hereto affixed in Council the 31st day of January in the year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven and of the commonwealth the eleventh.

Signed. CHARLES BIDDLE.  
Attest. JAMES TRIMBLE,  
JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Enrolled in the rolls office of the State of Pennsylvania in Patent book No. 8, page 374. Witness my hand and seal of office the 24th of March, 1787.

Seal. MATTHEW IRWIN, M. A.

This land has been vested in the Cowden name from that day to this. The first cabin stood to the front and to the right of the present brick house occupied by Robert S. Cowden, the present owner.

*Mrs. Mary Reynolds Cowden* in her old age became blind, yet her activities continued many years after. She could go from the cabin across the hill to a spring where the milk and butter were kept, a distance of 200 yards, and could perform the household and kitchen duties as spry as when she was young. When her grandson, Isaac Patterson Cowden, her son *John's* boy, so named after his uncle who had gone to Ohio, was about 10 years old he would go to the little run at the foot of the hill in front of the cabin where several generations of children have dabbled and fished with bent pins. He would watch for snakes while his grandmother was washing out wool that was to be spun into yarn.

At length *Mrs. Cowden* yielded to the requests of her sons who were in Ohio and went out to Lowellville to make her home with her son, Joseph. Mrs. Houston, his daughter, said that she remembered when she was a child that if she tried to slip to the big corner cupboard that stood in the large old kitchen



to scrape a sweet bite from the crock of maple sugar, the sharp ears of the blind grandmother would detect the sound and she would call out, "Now, Peggy, you are at that sugar again."

She lived to be 84 years of age and died without a will. The joint title of the nine heirs to the farm of Hornhead, in Washington county was bought by her son, *John*, for \$1,000.00. She lies at rest in the old graveyard at Mahoning, Pa., on the Ohio line. She died at the home of her youngest son, Dr. Isaac Patterson Cowden.

The account of her family will be taken up at some length. The sons who settled in Ohio being first considered, then the three daughters and their descendants and finally our ancestor, *John Cowden II*, who was among the oldest of her children. The birth dates of few are known and the order in the family is only that given by various persons who have furnished some information concerning them.

## CHAPTER V.

### The Ohio Cowdens, Whose Specialty Was Physicians.

Joseph William and Reynolds Cowden went together to Mahoning county, Ohio, about 1795 or 1800 and settled near Lowellville.

SECTION I. Joseph Cowden was born October, 1765, and died September 19th, 1849, aged 86 years and is buried at Poland Center, Mahoning County, Ohio. Before removing to Ohio he married Mary May at Canonsburg, Pa. She was born August 12th, 1771, and died February 3rd, 1857, aged 84 years also. Their home was for many years near New Bedford in Lawrence County, Pa., not far from the Ohio line. One winter Sabbath morning pretty Mary May had come with her devout parents to the house of worship of the Associate church which was the first that stood in the Oak Spring Cemetery on a hill east of Canons-



burg in Washington County, Pa. The saintly old Dr. Ramsey was the minister. His hearers came from near and far, on foot and horseback, to hear the law and the gospel preached. Monuments and headstones are now standing where the living once walked, and mark the resting place of the pastor and his flock but there is no vestige of the old church save some unevenness of the ground. Earnestness and piety were genuine in those days. The services were two hours long. The singing was lined out and led by the clerk who sat beneath the pulpit and the fine old tunes that had been sung by Scottish martyrs filled the plain low church with sounds of gratitude and gladness. These old-time sermons and psalms, tedious and uncouth though they seem to us, had a mighty power upon life and character.

One young man made a tardy entrance that particular morning for he had traveled four miles on foot through the snow. This was Joseph Cowden, perhaps just returned from Ohio to visit his mother at Hornhead farm. The sound of his entering caused a general turning of heads as in congregations of today. Among the number whose curiosity interrupted their attention was Mary May and she has left the confession, for romantic maidens of succeeding generations that she saw "the handsomest man that she had ever looked upon." He was tall and sturdy. He had light hair and blue eyes and his cheeks had a ruddy glow from the wintry air and his step was manly and confident. This was her first glance upon her future husband.

They were married, probably in 1794. Their children were nine in number. John was born April 30th, 1795, and the name of his wife was Eliza ———. They settled in Illinois in pioneer times and all trace of them is lost. There is a village in that State called Cowden but an effort to open communication was not successful. 2. Alexander a twin brother of John,



wed Margaret Lackey and accompanied his brother westward. He died April 30th, 1855, aged 60. Next was 3. James Reynolds Cowden, born July 6th 1797. He wed Elizabeth Davis and resided at Coitsville, Centre County, Ohio. 4. Margaret, born October 1st. 1799, wed David Houston, of Poland Township, Mahoning County, Ohio. There was a family of 12 children born to the patriarch David, as to Israel of old. The fifth was Arthur May Cowden, born Sept. 30th, 1801. Wed first, Sarah Glenn and second his cousin, Polly Cowden. Sixth was Isaac Patterson Cowden, born October 17th, 1803, and named for the old Doctor. He died young. Seventh, Mary Cowden, born March 9th, 1806, and wed William Duff. Eighth, Esther Cowden, born June 8, 1808, and died January 3d, 1826, aged 16. Ninth, Jemima Cowden, the last child of Mary May and Joseph Cowden, was born February 18th, 1811, and married James McGeehan.

Not all of the grandchildren and later descendants of Joseph Cowden are known. John's family in Illinois is said to have been, 1, Isaac; 2, Watson; 3, Amanda; 4, Selina, wed Dr. Frazier; 5, Eliza, married and had one child. Alexander, the twin brother, eventually settled at Crawfordsville, Iowa, and so far as is known had five children: Amanda, or Mrs. Russel; Josephine, or Mrs. Manners; Isaac Patterson; Alexander and Evaline.

James Reynolds Cowden, of Lowellville, Ohio, had six children: Esther Ann, single; 2, Phoebe May, wed Wm. Geddes; 3, Jane, wed Wm. McGeehan; 4, Mary, wed John Walker; 5, another Isaac Patterson, wed Amanda Robinson; 6, Davidson, wed Jane Geddes, a sister of the husband of Phoebe, his own sister.

Margaret Cowden Houston's family of a dozen all lived to grow up and call their parents blessed: Dr. William May Houston wed Francis Davis and removed to Mexico, Mo.; 2, Joseph Houston, wed Sarah Smith;





3, Amy Jane Houston, wed Wm. Dixon; 4, Esther Houston, wed Dr. James G. Junkin; 5, Mary Ann Watson Houston, wed Wm. Martin, a banker of Canonsburg, Pa.; 6, Martha Sarah Houston, wed McMillan Johnston; 7, Major John Patterson Houston, died from wounds received in the Civil War; 8, Andrew David Houston, wed Penelope Shoyer; 9, Jemima F. Houston, 10, Margaret Elizabeth Houston, 11, Rosella Narcissa Houston reside together at Canonsburg, Pa., in a pleasant and hospitable home; 12, Calvin Edward Houston died unmarried.

SECTION 2. Returning to pick up the thread of William Cowden, another of the three brothers who settled at an early date in the Ohio country, we learn that he was tall and had black eyes. He was born in 1774 and died at Poland Center in 1854 at the ripe old age of 80 years. His wife's name is not known. Several of his family are mentioned. 1. Dr. James Cowden, of Portersville, Ohio, who wed a Miss Christy. I am told that Mrs. Frazer, late of Allegheny, Pa., who was one of my earliest Sabbath school teachers, was their daughter. 2. Isaac Cowden, who wed a Miss Gibson. 3. Dr. Joseph Cowden wed a Miss Galloway and emigrated, taking his gal away to the west. 4. James Cowden remained single, and probably remained in Ohio. 5. Montgomery Cowden took for his bride Miss Lydia McBride, of near New Wilmington, Pa. 6. Rebecca became Mrs. James McFarland, of near New Bedford, Pa. 7. Mary Cowden was single.

SECTION 3. The other of the three Cowdens settling in Ohio was Reynolds Cowden who wed Polly Sloan. She outlived him, dying in 1840. They resided in Poland Township, Mahoning County, Ohio. Their children are said to have numbered six. First, Robert Cowden, wed Amy Lowry. Second, Reynolds Cowden, wed Maria Dixon. Third, Mary Cowden, wed James Blackburn, a farmer in that vicinity.



Fourth, Ebenezer Cowden, wed first, Esther Dixon, (Was she a sister of his brother Reynold's wife?) and secondly, he wed Margaret Lowry, who was a sister of his brother Robert's wife. Fifth, was a son who was a navigator on Lake Michigan and the sixth is not reported.

The enumeration of the grandchildren comprises eight in the family of Robert Cowden, above mentioned: Mrs. Mary Ann Cowden Stewart, Mrs. Jane Cowden Strain, Mrs. Elizabeth Cowden Falls, Miss Lydia Hanna Cowden, Mrs. Martha Cowden Sharp, Miss Melvina Cowden, James Cowden and William Cowden, both reported as single.

Four other grandchildren of Reynolds Cowden are found in the family of his second son, Reynolds, Mrs. Mary Cowden McNab, Miss Margaret Cowden, Mrs. Elizabeth Cowden McBride and Miss Rebecca Cowden.

Four more grandchildren in his son Ebenezer's family. Reynolds Cowden, married, George Dixon Cowden, killed in battle. William Frances Cowden, (child of the second wife) wed Myrtle Myers and Esther Cowden wed Falls Anderson.

Four further grandchildren in the family of his son, James: 1. Dr. Newton Cowden, of Lowellville, Ohio, twice wed, his second wife being Mary Jane King. 2. Dr. Reynolds Cowden, single. 3. Margaret. 4. Mary, wed a Mr. Blackburn, of Poland township, Mahoning county, O. She had one daughter who wed Davidson Dixon, brother of Cowden Dixon and they had one son. But it is not our intention to be lost in the multitude of great and great-great grandchildren. Doubtless there are some of the grandchildren that have escaped to oblivion until our second edition may be printed with everything correct and complete.

This notice of a land transaction in early times came to hand:



1802 Archibald Neilson to Ronald Couden a tract in the Connecticut Reserve Poland Township containing 100 ackers adjoining land of William Couden and Thomas Paulson, sold for \$3.00 per acker, one third cash, one third next April and one third April 1804.

SECTION 4. The youngest child of the widow *Mary Reynolds Cowden* was Isaac Patterson Cowden. He joined his three brothers in Ohio some time after their settlement and became a doctor and surgeon of wide reputation and an elder in the Associate Reformed church. The manner in which his name was given by the kindness of a neighbor has been stated and it is interesting to note how very many Isaac Pattersons have followed him in the history of the Cowden tribe. Truly a good deed can never die. However, the good doctor himself, in spite of his professional skill and the great respect in which the community held him, must die. Dr. Isaac Patterson Cowden died October 22nd, 1855, of cancer of the face, and is buried at Poland Center, Mahoning County, Ohio. He was four times married, so that we may say his record was enviable as a physician, as a man of influence in the church in which for long years he filled an eldership and as one whom the ladies delighted to honor. He was a large fine appearing and witty man. On Jan. 15th, 1805, he was married to Mary McWilliams. 1. His son, Doctor John Cowden, was born Jan. 10th, 1806, and wed Nancy Forbes. He died Nov. 10th, 1887. On Oct. 8th, 1807, Mary and Hannah, twins, were born in the family of Dr. I. P. Cowden. 2. Hannah died in infancy. 3. Mary married Nov. 3rd 1844, her cousin, Dr. A. M. Cowden. The wife of Dr. Isaac P. Cowden died in 1808 on Christmas day, as the old record witnesses, "in the full belief of her interest in Jesus Christ." Isaac P. Cowden and Jean McBride were married Nov 28th, 1809. 4. Samuel M. Cowden was born Sept. 10th, 1810; married Rachel Truesdale; died Aug. 22nd, 1889. 5. Isaac P. Cowden, Jr., was born Oct. 16th, 1812. Married June 21st, 1837, to



Sarah D. Waugh. He resided at Mahoning, Lawrence County, Pa. He was a small and active man, but like his father reached a good old age to be cut off by the same malady. He died March 8th, 1891, leaving six surviving children. 6. Lydia Hannah Cowden was born May 20th, 1815; she became the wife of Alexander Duff and died Sept. 17th, 1836. Her mother, the second wife of Dr. Cowden, died Nov. 9th, 1816.

Dr. Cowden and Mary Watson were married November, 1817, who died March 3d, 1828.

Dr. Cowden and Ann Law were married Jan. 13, 1830. Dr. Cowden died in his 80th year Oct. 22nd, 1855. Ann Law Cowden, his fourth wife, died Oct. 17th, 1865.

Now as to the family of Isaac Patterson Cowden, Jr. Three daughters remained unmarried and made their home in the beautiful little town of New Wilmington, Pa., which is the seat of Westminster College. Their names are Lydia H. Cowden, born Nov. 7th, 1830; Ann Eliza Cowden, born Jan. 29th, 1842, Mary R. Cowden, born March 16th, 1849.

Three others of the family are married and scattered abroad: Sara Jane Cowden, born March 14th, 1844, married June 23d, 1875, to E. L. Kimmens, of Denver, Col. William J. Waugh Cowden, born May 1st, 1846, married May 9th, 1882, to Lucy McClure, of Wheeling, West Virginia; is a lawyer in that city. Their only child, Helen, is a student in the West Virginia University. Rebecca Florence Cowden, born July 23d, 1851, married Dec. 4th, 1872, to R. Cowden Dickson. She resides in Redlands, Cal. Her eldest son, Wm. C. Dickson, wed Stella Justus and lives at Lowellville, O., and is a carpenter. Her second son, Isaac J., lives in Nebraska. Her third son, Arthur G., wed Maud Moore, lives at Redlands, Cal., and has two girls, Sarah and Ruth.

Other grandchildren of Dr. Isaac Patterson Cow-





den are as follows: In his oldest son's family, Dr. John, who wed Maria Forbes. 1. Isaac Patterson. 2. Rev. William Cowden, D. D., of the Christian Church, of Tacoma, Wash., wed Mary Rice. Several daughters graced this western home in 1895 when the writer attended a meeting in that city. 3. James, wed Mary Davidson. 4. Benjamin. 5. Rebecca, wed James Wallace.

Grandchildren in Samuel's family: 1. Dr. Truesdale Cowden. 2. Isaac Cowden, wed Mary Jane King. 3. John Cowden. 4. Julia Cowden.

## CHAPTER VI.

### The Widow's Daughters Marry Also.

According to the intention announced some distance back we are now ready to take up the narrative of the three sisters, Esther, Margaret and Jane, who seem to have remained near their widowed mother and their brother, *John Cowden* and in Washington County, Pa., after they were married. John and Esther appear to have been much older than Margaret and Jane. Where no dates are given the order in which a family is named is not of much use in determining their respective ages as it was customary to name the boys first or to make groups according to their residence. It is quite evident that the Scotch Irish settlement in Washington County drew from other eastern settlements of the same class, not by single accessions but by companies of kindred families sufficient both to make a strong caravan for the journey and to compose a little group of homesteads for defence and neighbourliness upon the frontier. The fort and the church and the mill were communal points around which they grouped their clearings, regarding half a dozen miles as near in those times of cheerful hardships. Cecil County, Maryland, sent one company to Washington County before the Revolutionary War



and the stragglers followed later. From the Paxtang settlement which had easy communication with the Cecil County settlement by means of the Susquehanna river there was also considerable immigration to Washington County. The Scroggs, the Kelsos, the Cowden and other families being found in both places. The Ewings came from Maryland. The Welches from Paxtang to Cecil County and thence to Washington County.

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Esther, and How She Replenished the Earth With McNarys.

SECTION I. Esther Cowden wed David McNary. He had purchased 300 acres in Hanover Township, Washington County, Pa., in 1783 for £75. He was six feet tall, sandy in complexion and stalwart in frame. He became an elder in Dr. Abraham Anderson's Harmon's Creek congregation. His father was James McNary, born in 1711 in Scotland. He came to the colony of Pennsylvania in 1760 or earlier and settled in Washington County about 1780 on land once owned by General George Washington.

Esther Cowden McNary had seven children. It seems necessary to place the date of her marriage near 1780, the time of the Cowdens' arrival. It is not impossible to suppose that this marriage or that of Mrs. Margaret Cowden Scroggs took place before the Cowden family immigrated and was largely the inducement that led the widow to remove from Conacocheague to Washington County. The seven children were: Margaret McNary, wed John Ramsey, of Hookstown, Beaver County, Pa., and had six of a family. 1. David. 2. Sarah, wed Stirling. 3. Mary, also wed Stirling, whether the same or another is not stated. 4. Milly, wed Miller. 5. Emily, wed Witherspoon. 6. Rhoda.

Second, Mary McNary, wed Sammel Martin, of Canonsburg. Their family consisted of: 1. Esther, wed B. M. Crouch, and had five children: 1. (Maria



Crouch, wed Charles Knepper. 2. James. 3. John, who wed Miss Finney and had two sons. 4. Martha Crouch. 5. Ella Crouch.) 2. James Martin wed Ellen Ramsey and are said to have nine children, only Samuel and Josiah being named in our source of information, 3. Rev Samuel Melancthon Martin wed Miss Porter and had three children: Jean, Thomas Porter and Samuel.

Third. Esther McNary wed Mr. Williamson, of Jefferson County, O. Fourth. Elizabeth McNary wed William Wallace, of Poland Center, O. Fifth. Sarah McNary wed James Stewart, of Youngstown, O. Sixth. Jane McNary wed Mr. McBride, of Poland Township, O. Seventh. Wm. McNary, of Brooke County, Va., (near Paris, Pa.) wed Miss Ramsey and is buried at Harmon's Creek church. He had nine children and from the dates of their birth if everything is correct makes it plain that he must have been the eldest of the children of Esther Cowden and David McNary and that their marriage must have taken place before 1780 and, if so, then it was east of the mountains. The nine children referred to are: 1. David, born 1800, wed Nancy Fulton in 1827. He died in 1865 at Bloomfield in Muskingum County, O., leaving eight children, who were:

1. Jane, born Oct. 8th, 1828, wed James McBride, of Murray, Ind. 2. Nancy McNary, born July 21st, 1830, became Mrs. Wm H. Caldwell, of Antrim, O. 3. Sarah McNary, born Aug. 5th, 1832, became Mrs. John R. Henderson, of Xenia, Ill. 4. Maggie, born Feb. 8th, 1834; died Aug., 1834. 5. Martha, born Aug. 3rd, 1835, became Mrs. Wm. McCary, died July, 1861, at Bloomfield, O. 6. Mary, born Dec. 2nd, 1837, became Mrs. Wm. Atkins, of Ogden, Ind. 7. William, born Mar. 2nd, 1840, died at the age of 16 years. 8. Elizabeth, born Aug. 2nd, 1842 became Mrs. E. Newhouse of Knightswood Ind.

2. The second child of Wm. McNary was Robert; of Coshocton, O., who left three daughters. Trace lost.

3. the third child of Wm. McNary was Samuel, of Defiance, Ohio, who left two



daughters.

4. the fourth child of Wm. McNary was John, who went west; he left no family.

5. the fifth child of Wm. McNary was Ebenezer who moved to Missouri and had two sons and two daughters.

6. the sixth was James McNary, of Burgettstown, Pa.

7. the seventh was Wm. McNary, of Burgettstown, Pa.; had a family of six, (Mary Elizabeth, Margaret J., Elizabeth, Emma, Amanda and another.)

8. the eighth child of Wm. McNary was Nancy who wed Wm. Templeton, of Ohio, and had four children.

9. the ninth child of Wm. McNary was Mary, wed Dr. Wm. Shields, of Mt. Joy, Ill., and blessed him with a large family.

All this record of the McNary clan is gleaned from a pamphlet history of the tribe published in 1878 by Rev. W. P. McNary, D. D., of Tarkio, Missouri, since which time the McNary families have gone on multiplying and replenishing the earth, whereof we are glad for the stock is good.

SECTION 2. Margaret Cowden introduces the Scroggs tribe who are to be reviewed from Alpha to Omega.

Margaret Cowden was another daughter of the good widow of Hornhead farm in Washington County, Pa. She became the second wife of James Scroggs about 1772 while her father still lived, and when their home was in the Conacocheague Valley, then Cumberland County. Much assistance was needed to untangle the skein of her posterity. It is incorrectly stated in Crumrine's History of Washington County that she married Reynolds Scroggs. Reynolds being the name of her mother before marriage, and it being affirmed by some of the friends in Washington County that a Reynolds Scroggs did marry a Cowden, made a very patience-trying puzzle. This mistake and a bewildering statement made in connection with much valuable information furnished by





Rev. Joseph A. Scroggs, of Canonsburg, Pa., to the effect that his grandmother's name was certainly JANE Cowden and that she was buried at Cadiz, Ohio, and that her grandson, Rev. William H. Vincent, D. D., had in recent years erected a stone to mark her last resting place, was confusing. Along with all this, mixing things more hopelessly, came word from the Mayor of Cadiz supplying the following item from the Recorder's Office: "Mrs. Sarah Scroggs, widow, born in Penna., died in Cadiz, O., March 7th, 1875, aged 80 years."

The solution is amazingly simple and is positive. Reynolds Scroggs was one of the eight children of Margaret Cowden Scroggs. Jane Cowden, who wed Thomas Hanna, and Margaret Cowden, her sister, who wed James Scroggs, were EACH grandmother to the family of the Rev. Joseph Scroggs, D. D., of Ligonier Valley, Westmoreland County, Pa.; for he married Mary Hanna, his full cousin. The item of the Mayor of Cadiz refers to the widow of Ebenezer Scroggs, another son of Margaret Cowden's. She was Sarah Monteith, a Scotch girl, and likewise his full cousin.

Further perusal will unfold the tale with the true facts in due order.

The following pleasant letter was written by Mrs. J. H. Pollock in her 80th year:

WOOSTER O., Feb. 18, 1902.

DEAR FRIEND:

When your letter came my daughter and I were both sick with grip and continued ill for some time, then for some time after we had recovered, I must confess I had forgotten about your letter until something recalled it. I hope it is not too late yet to answer what questions I can. I presume you know my father and mother were cousins (the marriage of cousins in that day was not so unpopular as at the present). Their mothers were sisters. Father's mother was Margaret Cowden and mother's mother, Jane Cowden. Father's father and mother were both dead before my recollection. I think I have heard my father say that his mother lived to be sixty years of age and that they were buried at Hickory, Pa. Grandfather and grandmother Hanna are buried at Cadiz, O.



I think a few years ago a new stone was erected to their memory. I have heard my father and mother speak of *THEIR* grandmother's name being Reynold's, hence the name of Reynolds in the connection.

I think it is a mistake about Reynolds Scroggs being married to a Cowden. I have heard my father speak of his wife and name her but I cannot remember what it was. I married and left home when I was quite young and so am not so well posted about my ancestors as I would like to be. I have heard my father often speak of his mother as a woman of more than ordinary ability, well versed in scripture and very pious and that she was tall and handsome, I remember grandmother Hanna. She was a large, fine looking old lady with black eyes and gray hair.

Yours respectfully,

MRS. JANE H. POLLOCK.

From Mrs. Pollock's sister, Mrs. Rachel Walker Scroggs Cochran, of near Macedonia, O., considerable interesting information was secured, particularly some items about the ancestry of James Scroggs who married Margaret Cowden. She also brought about an introduction to Mr. Thompson, the private historian of the Scroggs family. By his courteous help several of the following pages have been prepared. The results of his painstaking culture of his ancestral tree being grafted into this record of the Cowden tree and somewhat roughly pruned. May his own particular bough long remain luxuriant and fruitful.

## CHAPTER VII.

The Scroggs Family From Scotland, Who Have Been Numberless,  
but in Some Cases Undiscoverable.

From Notes of Mr. T. A. L. Thompson, Esq., of Steubenville, Ohio. Upon  
the History of the Scroggs Family.

The history of the Scroggs family in America dates from 1745, when three brothers, sons of John Scroggs, left their ancestral home in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, Scotland, and came to Pennsylva-



nia, settling in that part of Cumberland County, now comprised in the townships of Newton and West Pennsborough. Alexander and John settling in Newton and Allen in Pennsborough.

The Scroggs family in Scotland was of wealth and distinction being in olden time descended from the nobility and being a branch of the Scottish clan of the Murrays. From this stock a younger son went to England and rose in his profession of the law until in 1676 he was knighted by King Charles the Second and afterwards became Chief Justice of the King's Bench. This was Sir William Scroggs, Sr. He died leaving four children: William, afterwards Sir William, who wed Mary, daughter of Sir John Churchill, who died without issue, and for his second wife he wed in 1684 Ann, daughter of Matthew Buck, and had children of whom no account is obtainable.

The three daughters of Sir William, Sr., were: Mary, died unwed. Ann, married Sir Robert Wright, Chief Justice in the reign of King James 2nd. Jane wed Anthony Gilby, and second, Hon. Charles Hallon.

About 1876 the main stock of Scroggs in Scotland died out leaving quite a large fortune to which the descendants of the three brothers who came to America would be heirs. It proved impossible to secure united action from the large and scattered relationship and consequently all effort toward asserting a claim was abandoned and the property escheated to the Government.

SECTION 1.—Not yet related to the Cowdens.

John Scroggs, the immigrant to Pennsylvania, removed to Iredel County, North Carolina, in 1798. He had six sons and four daughters, most all of whom have left descendants scattered through North Carolina, Tennessee and in Indiana. This part of the connection was naturally pro-slavery as in many instances they were large owners of plantations and slaves. A number served on the side of the 'lost cause,' in the



Rebellion. The sons were John, James, David, Ebenezer, Milas and Enos. The four daughters were Jane, Martha, Sarah and Hannah.

Allen Scroggs, the immigrant to Pennsylvania, was and elder in the Associate church at Big Spring, Cumberland County, Pa. After his death in 1777 his family removed to Baltimore where the stock may still be found although some have moved westward. Some are in Columbiana County, O., near Lisbon. His will makes mention of Allen, John, Janet, Alexander, Mary and Daniel.

Alexander Scroggs, the third brother who immigrated to Pennsylvania, was born in Scotland, October 2nd, 1708. His father was John Scroggs. In 1745, when he was 37 years of age, Alexander Scroggs came to Cumberland County, Pa. He located on a farm on Green Springs, in Hopewell, now Newton Township, about threemiles west of Newville, Pa. He was like his brother Allen, a ruling elder in the Big Spring Associate church. At one time he was the owner of some 600 acres of land. He was twice married. His first wife was Rachel Leith, of Edinburg, Scotland. The tradition is that this was a runaway match. Rachel being a considerable heiress and her family objecting to Alexander because he was a younger son and not in line to have much estate. They had eleven children and as four are not named it is supposed that they died in infancy. 1. James, to whom we will again refer. 2. Alexander, born 1749, wed Mary Brown in 1776. 3. Ebenezer, born 1751, unmarried. 4. Jeannette, wed Joseph McElwain, of this line was Rev. Alexander Donaldson, of Eldersridge, Indiana County, Pa. (?) 5. Rachel, wed John Stevenson. 6. Ann, wed Hugh McElroy, of this line is Rev. J. M. McElroy, of Ottumwa, Iowa. 7. Sarah, born 1762.

Alexander Scroggs by his second marriage to Rachel Ireland had ten children, making a grand total





of twenty-one to rise up and call him blessed.

In the second family were: 1. Allan, wed first Margaret Creigh and second, Mary Porter. 2. Miriam, born in 1775. 3. John H., born 1776, a general in the war of 1812, wed first Isabella Walker, second, Anna White, and died in 1844. Mrs. Royce, of New Castle is of this line. 4. Aaron, born 1778, wed Sarah White. 5. Moses, born 1780 wed Margaret Thompson. 6. Rachel, born 1781, wed Wm. McConnelly. 7. Sarah, born 1783, wed Alexander Thompson. 8. Rev. Elijah, born 1785, died 1851, wed Margaret Imbrue and had seven children, all of whom died in youth. 9. Mary Ireland, born 1788, died 1845, wed Robert Thompson. 10. Tabitha Elizabeth, born 1790, died 1870, wed Hugh Thompson.

Miss Mary Gageby, of Johnstown, Pa., has some account of the line of Allan Scroggs.

Mrs. Cochran mentioned a fragmentary item, doubtless true but difficult to fit in, that some distinguished Scroggs married a second wife of forgotten name, when he was 76 and the bride but 19.

A full and correct account of all the descendants of Rachel Ireland is in the possession of Mr. T. A. L. Thompson, Esq., of Steubenville, O., he being one of her descendants.

SECTION. 2. James, who allied the Scroggs and Cowdens.

James Scroggs, the oldest son of Alexander, was born 1746 on the Green Spring, near Newville, Pa. When a young man he visited Scotland and while among the scenes of his ancestors wed Margaret Jack bringing her back to the Cumberland Valley home in 1768. Her relatives were acquainted with the Scroggs on both sides of the water, Matthew and Patrick Jack having early come to the Pennsylvania colony and settled in the Cumberland Valley. There was one son born to this marriage; he was called Alexander and removed to Kentucky, but died in Coshocton, O.



He left a family, one of whom was Rev. John Scroggs, an Associate preacher in New York State, who died in the beginning of his ministry.

James Scroggs about 1772 married a second wife, Margaret Cowden. She belonged to a family called the 'Black Cowdens' on account of their swarthy complexion. James Scroggs enlisted as a private in the company of Captain William Pebbles, a Presbyterian elder of Big Spring and served through the Revolution. The company consisted of 81 riflemen who were splendid marksmen and men of endurance and courage. They took part in the battle of Long Island where a portion were captured. The survivors, among whom was James Scroggs, participated in the engagements of White Plains, Trenton and Princeton. After the war he moved to Washington County, Pa., in 1801, and took up a farm on Miller's Run.

The children of Margaret Cowden were eight in number:

1. Ebenezer Scroggs, married his cousin, Sarah Monteith, and had four children. (She it is who was buried at Cadiz, O.)

2. John Scroggs married Jane Paxton and had three children.

3. Ellen Scroggs married Dr. John Murdock, a Scotch physician, of Washington, Pa., and had two children.

4. Polly, died at the age of 12 of the dread malady of smallpox.

5. James, born 1784, died 1833, married first, Ann Paxton in 1812, a sister of his brother John's wife, and second, in 1818, Elizabeth Galbreath.

6. Reynolds Scroggs died at the age of 30.

7. Rachel Scroggs married Rev. John Walker, founder of Franklin College at New Athens, O., and had eight children.

8. Joseph Scroggs, born 1793, wed his cousin,



Mary Hanna, of Washington County, Pa., they had ten children.

James Scroggs removed from the Miller's Run farm with his family to a tract of land on Raccoon creek near to the village of Candor in Washington county, and there died and is buried along with several of his children in the cemetery of the Raccoon Presbyterian church.

SECTION 3. Precedence is given to the families of Ellen and Rachel.

Ellen Scroggs married Dr. John Murdoch at Washington, Pa. They had but two children. A daughter who died in infancy and a son, James, who graduated at Washington College and died while fitting himself to follow the profession in which his father had attained such excellence. Ellen Scroggs was a well educated and highly accomplished woman and justly praised for her benevolence. Dr. Murdoch was highly successful as a physician and was a charter member of the association that organized and endowed the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and although he was not a wealthy man he went to Philadelphia and gave his valuable library and \$600.00 as a nucleus for the establishment of the institution.

Both Dr. Murdoch and his wife died in middle life leaving no descendants to perpetuate their names and virtues.

Polly Scroggs, who died at the age of twelve, was doubtless named Mary. She is said to have been a girl of unusual beauty and intelligence,

Rachel Scroggs was possessed of excellent mental abilities which, aided by a fine character and a good education, made of her a refined and cultured lady. When quite young she married Rev. John Walker, who was quite a notable preacher in the Associate church. He was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1787 and was graduated from Jefferson Medical College and studied Theology under Dr. Anderson, of



Service, Pa. He became a pioneer in the advocacy of total abstinence and was intense in his hostility to slavery. He engaged in an extended public discussion and debate with Alexander Campbell, founder of the Campbellite Baptists or Disciples. The competitors were both of stalwart intellect and of unusual eloquence and their age was hot with the spirit of religious controversy. The contest was creditable to Mr. Walker and of wide public interest. Rev. Walker removed to Ohio and started a classical school at New Athens, and secured a charter for it as Franklin College, an institution which has supplied the world and continues with increasing ability to do so, with many graduates well fitted by character and training to fill the positions of eminence to which they have attained. Mr. Walker was always marked by an enthusiasm for the public betterment and by a boundless hospitality, which, together with the loss of his home and books by fire, placed him in straitened circumstances which he endeavored to improve at a time when other duties and advancing age had placed him out of the way of seeking pastoral service elsewhere than near his home, by undertaking the regular practice of medicine for which he had educated himself in accord with a natural bent in his earlier years. His family consisted of eight children of whom Rachel Scroggs was the mother; by another marriage there were four daughters.

1. James Walker, unmarried, was a United Presbyterian minister, but died soon after his ordination.

2. Margaret Walker, became the first wife of Rev. George C. Vincent, D. D.

3. Beveridge, unmarried, studied for the ministry but died while in the seminary.

4. Mary, wed William Anderson, of Washington, Iowa, where she and her babe are buried.





5. Ellen, unmarried and residing at Monmouth, Illinois.

6. John, died early in years.

7. Joseph, died in infancy.

8. Robert likewise died unmarried.

Rev. George C. Vincent, D. D., became President of Franklin College in 1877 and contributed to its prosperity and advancement for a term of years. Dr. Vincent's second wife was Martha Hanna, the only child of James Hanna, who is referred to elsewhere. Thus both his wives were great-granddaughters of John Cowden, First.

In the first family of Dr. Vincent were three sons: Robert Milton Vincent, now living at Cheyenne, Wyoming, and unmarried. Rev. Alvan Stuart Vincent, Ph. D., a United Presbyterian minister at Siloam Springs, Ark. He wed Susan Walker, of Monmouth, Ill., and now deceased, and in their family were, George S., Grace M., a teacher at Council Grove, Kansas; and Elizabeth, a teacher at Abilene, Kansas. Lieut. John Walker Vincent wed Martha Hunter. He was graduated from Westminster College; was a member of the 145th Regt. Penna. Volunteers; was mortally wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., on Dec. 13, 1862, and died Dec. 19th. His one daughter, Mary M. Vincent, wed Harry Snyder. They reside at Lusk, Wyoming.

In the second family of Dr. Vincent, which properly belongs in the Hanna section, were 6 children. Anna M. Vincent died on June 2nd, 1894. Dr. James Rankin Vincent, of Pittsburg, Pa., wed Fannie McLean, no children. Dr. C. Jane Vincent died June 7th, 1902. She was one of the earliest and one of the most successful women physicians of Allegheny, and was identified with the philanthropic and charitable works both of her city and of her church, rendering especial services in connection with the United Presbyterian Board of Freedmen's Missions. Mary Margaret



Vincent wed William F. Hamilton, of Douglas, Wyoming. They have five children: William, James, George, Artie and Martha. Rev. William H. Vincent, D. D., is a United Presbyterian minister now pastor at Youngstown, O. He married Jeannetta M. Jamison. They have three children: Martha Olive, George Clark, now a student at Westminster College, and Eleanor Marie, a teacher in the High School, of Hubbard, O. 6th. James Hanna Vincent died in infancy.

Rev. George Vincent, D. D., died in Allegheny, Pa., October 16th, 1869, and his wife, who for 34 years had walked hand in hand with him, devoting their lives to the church in college and congregational work, continued to live there with her daughter, Dr. C. Jane Vincent, until the Master called her home September 25th, 1899. She was survived by four children.

SECTION 4. The families of Ebenezer, John and Reynolds Scroggs.

Ebenezer, who was the first-born son of James and Margaret Cowden Scroggs, was given the best educational advantages that those early times afforded and was supplied with both lands and money by his father and was given a start in business. He married his cousin, Sarah Monteith, who had inherited considerable money from her father and a larger amount from a bachelor uncle who died in Scotland, leaving her as his sole heir. High living and extravagance quickly dissipated the most of their money. The love of ease and pleasure produced its inevitable result. After the mother's death the father and his children were cared for by his brothers and sister. There were four children, all of whom died unmarried in early life. There were two sons and two daughters.

John Scroggs married Jane Paxton and to them were born three children: Margaret, Jane and James.

The daughters died unwed and the son, James,



having enlisted in the Civil War, was killed in action at the battle of Manassas, or Bull Run. The father reached an advanced age, living with his brother, Rev. Joseph Scroggs, of Ligonier. John Scroggs was a genial and pleasant man but his visionary tendencies and his bitter enmity to secret orders, especially to Masonry, which was a prominent characteristic of the Associate Church of that day, rendered him somewhat peculiar. He published a paper at Washington, Pa., called the "Anti-Mason Investigator" and sunk a large amount of money in the enterprise. He invented a number of curious and complicated machines but was not successful in having them brought into general use. He also constructed a large mill at Canonsburg and for a time carried on the manufacture of woolen and cotton goods. The burning of the mill lost all his means, together with considerable sums borrowed from his brothers and sisters for this enterprise.

He was highly religious, strictly temperate, economical, honest, and industrious, but impractical and unfortunate. Although he had been enriched from his father's estate and had twice married, both times to women of considerable wealth, yet he died a pensioner on the bounty of his youngest brother, Joseph. Of all his children but one reached maturity. This son was an accomplished engineer and machinist. He was a young man of great physical strength and agility. He was called by his comrades "Bunt" because of his short and thick body. He was in command of a battery of light artillery at the time he met a soldier's heroic death at the battle of Manassas.

Reynolds Scroggs as a boy was sickly and weak both in body and mind, but outgrew his frailty in every way and at the aged of 28 years was married to the daughter of a neighbour. He only lived two years thereafter, dying of fever in his thirtieth year leaving a daughter born after his decease who married Reed Atchison a farmer on Miller's Run, and who



died when she was 20 and left a son named Reynold's Atchison who died at Coitsville, Ohio.

SECTION 5. James Scroggs and his voluminous posterity.

James Scroggs is counted as the fifth child of James and Margaret Cowden Scroggs. He was born in Cumberland County, Pa., in 1784, and died June 22nd, 1837, in his 54th year. He married in 1812 Anna Paxton, who died 1816. She was the sister of his brother John's wife and the daughter of James Paxton who had come from Cumberland County to Washington County at about the time the Scroggses had migrated. By this marriage James Scroggs had two children, Margaret, who was born at Miller's Run, August 30th, 1813 and married in 1833 W. E. McCandless, and died in 1876. James, born November 4th, 1814, and in 1835 married Matilda Dawson and died in 1848.

In the year 1818 James Scroggs was married a second time to Miss Elizabeth Gilbreath, of Nobles-town, Pa., who was born July 30th, 1794. He died in 1837, but his wife survived until 1864. To this union eight children were born: 1. George Washington, born June 26th, 1819, and died in infancy. 2. Samuel Gilbreath, born October 24th, 1820, died September 27th, 1898; he was married first to Mary J. Dunbar in 1847, who died in 1852, and in 1853 he was married to Mary Brinner. 3. James, was born February 24th, 1822, married Emily Seaton in 1846, and died in 1895. 4. Elizabeth, born June 20th, 1824, married John Elder in 1843, died in 1851. 5. Anna Paxton, born August 17th, 1826, married Walter Abell in 1848, lives in Peoria, Ill. 6. Nancy, born May 2nd, 1828, died in 1837. 7. Joseph C., was born March 3rd, 1830, wed Elizabeth Howett, of Galesburg, Ill., and now living in Joliet, Ill. 8. Robert Gilbreath, was born Jan 16th, 1832, and married Orrilla Southwick in 1856, who died in 1874, and he married in 1875





Harriet West, and both are still living at Bushnell, Illinois.

Undoubtedly many of these families have children and grandchildren by now, for it is an unalterable law of genealogy that each generation should fulfill the injunction of Scripture, "be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth."

James Scroggs was of a very dark complexion and six feet tall. He had received the preliminary education that was designed to fit him, along with his brother Joseph, for the ministry. The stress of circumstances required that the family expenses should be reduced and thus James became a farmer and aided materially in providing for the equipment of Joseph for his eminent ministerial career. The mental capacity and literary tastes of James were of unusual order in a farmer. He was an ardent Scotchman, an admiring and eloquent reader of the dialect of Burns.

The history of his descendants through Margaret and James P. is a record of a brave and generally successful struggle with losses and adversity. In the manuscript form in which this story was read were many interesting incidents wholly creditable to the stock of the early colonial pioneers and forefathers, but our account must be briefer.

In 1833 Margaret became the wife of William F. McCandless, a carpenter. Upon the death of her mother, her brother James P. and her husband undertook storekeeping, which proved a losing venture. In 1838 they removed to Macomb, Ill., where her husband became a very successful builder. They had six children: Matilda, Elizabeth Anna, Margaretta, William A. and Wilson.

Matilda wed Edward Worthington, a son of a wealthy physician of Rushville, Ill. Mr. McCandless took Worthington into partnership in a lumber business, but inexperience and hard times involved the firm in debt, and upon the latter's death there was small



means of support for his young wife and one daughter.

Two daughters of Mrs. McCandlass died in young womanhood, Elizabeth in 1838 and Anna Paxton in 1848, at Macomb, Ill.

Margaretta, the youngest daughter, like the others was very well educated during the years of her father's prosperity at Macomb, and became the wife of James Welch, then a clerk in that town. He removed to Washington, Kansas, and was making a business success. After the death of Worthington, Mrs. McCandlass died, thereupon Mr. McCandlass and Tillie and her child removed to Kansas. Mr. Welch now made a banking investment in which he lost all he had and a large part of the scant means of Matilda and her father. The capacity of Mr. Welch for business was unquestioned. With the help of friends he started a hardware business in Bloomington, Ill., both families having removed thither, and here Mr. McCandlass died of apoplexy. Mr. Welch lost again, through an unreliable partner. He now, with his wife and two sons, resides in Quincy, Ill., where he is doing well. Tillie Worthington and her daughter, who is married, removed to Norfolk, Va.

There were two sons in the McCandlass family: Wilson, who wed Mary Lawson, of Macomb, Ill., and Dr. William. Wilson undertook the care of a farm which his father owned near the town of Bardolph, Ill., but at the outbreak of the war he enlisted with his uncle Allan McCandlass in the 89th Illinois Infantry. They fought together through many battles until at Chickamauga his uncle was killed. Wilson recovered his body and remained in the darkness to bury it and succeeded in rejoining his regiment. He returned from the war wounded and crippled with disease.

He removed to Hutchison, Reno County, Kansas, secured a large tract of land and began cattle raising, but it was an unpaying enterprise. He was elected County Treasurer and was succeeded in office by his



nephew, Wilson McCandlass, and continued as his deputy until he was appointed postmaster of the town. There are two of his children living. The daughter is married and the son lives about ten miles from Hutchison, Kansas.

Dr. William A. was the youngest of the McCandlass family. He has been a very successful physician in St. Louis. He was surgeon in the Alexian Hospital, and Professor of Surgery in the Beaumont Medical College. His practice is large and his standing professionally and socially is high. He has an accomplished wife and an interesting family.

Dr. James Paxton Scroggs was born in 1814 on Miller's Run, Washington County, Pa., and died in 1848. He was married in 1835 to Matilda Dawson and had four children: James, Elizabeth, Margaret and Paxton. He is buried at Candor, Pa.

The oldest son, James, married a Miss Fisher as his first wife and resided many years on the old home-

stead near Fairview, Beaver County, Pa. Since his second marriage he resides in Beaver, Pa.

Both of the daughters and the wife of Dr. James P. Scroggs are now dead. The youngest son, Paxton, owns and conducts a farm ten miles from Beaver. He is married and has a family.

SECTION 6. The Scroggs family in the Ligonier Valley parsonage.



REV. JOSEPH SCROGGS, D. D.



Rev. Jos. Scroggs was graduated with honor from Jefferson College at Canonsburg, Pa., in 1809, at the age of 16 years, when he entered upon the study of Theology under Dr. John Anderson at Service. He died in 1873 after having served Fairfield and Donegal churches in Westmoreland County during a pastorate of 57 years. He was beyond the ordinary intellectually and ministerially. In his Ligonier Valley home there were ten children: 1. Margaret, wed Joshua Dushane, of Wilkinsburg. They had one son, Joseph, who wed Miss Munce. He is an elder in the First U. P. Church, of Wilkinsburg, Pa., and his business is that of a wholesale grocer. They have four children. 2. Dr. Thomas Scroggs, married Louisa Hunter. They live at Fairview, Beaver County, Pa., and have three sons living: *a*, Dr. Joseph A. Scroggs, Professor in a Medical College at Keokuk, Iowa. He wed Miss Cleaver. *b*, Their daughter Margaret died at the age of four years. *c*, John and James Scroggs are farmers of Wapello, Iowa. The mother resided with the former, who had two children. 3. The next member of the Ligonier Valley family was Jane Hanna Scroggs, who wed Rev. Robert Hamill Pollock, D. D., born September 15th, 1817, in the Ligonier Valley. His grandfather was Squire James Pollock who, with 4 brothers, came from Ireland to Pennsylvania at an early date. James wed Mary Herron and in 1760 selected a farmstead in the frontiers of Westmoreland. In 1783, while tarrying at Mt. Pleasant because of the dread of Indian depredations on the farm, their son John was born. John wed Elizabeth Hamill and their son was Rev. Robert Hamill Pollock. He was pastor at Pittsburg, Indiana, and at Wooster, Ohio, and at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where he died suddenly in 1877. Fourth in the Ligonier Valley home was Ellen Scroggs who wed Rev. Abraham Anderson, pastor of the First Associate congregation of Pittsburg, Pa.; born 1818 at Canonsburg;





died 1849. His wife died one month later and their only child survived but six months longer. Fifth in the family was James R. Scroggs who died at the age of 10. Sixth was Mary Elizabeth Scroggs, who wed John Collins and lived near Xenia, Ohio. She died in 1884 leaving six children: Frank, who died in 1883, 26 years old. Mary Collins, who wed Rev. T. J. C. Webster, of Pasadena, California. Ella Collins is at home at Xenia, Ohio. Jane Collins is at Cedarville and Blanche became the wife of Rev. J. W. Ballantine accompanying him as a Missionary of the United Presbyterian Church to Sialkote, India. Joseph Collins died in 1897 when he was 24 years old. Seventh in the Ligonier Valley home was Rachel Scroggs, who married Houston Cochran, of Northfield, Summit County, Ohio. Their postoffice is Macedonia. The children are: Laura, now Mrs. Wm. McFarland, residing near Latrobe, Pa., with two sons, George and Albert. Harry and Agnes Cochran were spoken of as at home. Joseph died when 23; Thomas when 7, and another in infancy. Eighth in the Ligonier nest was a soldier boy, Rev. Joseph A. Scroggs, of Canonsburg, Pa. He was born July 28th, 1836. He acquired his education at Westminster College and at Alleghery and Xenia Seminaries and taught in the west. He served in the 11th Regiment of Iowa Infantry through the Civil War. He married Louisa Archer, of Canonsburg, and has one son, David A. Scroggs, a graduate of Westminster College. Rev. Scroggs married a second time Miss Agnes Pollock, of Belmont County, Ohio. The ninth member of the Ligonier family was Dr. John Scroggs; died at Latrobe, Pa., February 13, 1891. He had a son, James, who was a member of the 100th Pa. Vol. Infantry and was killed in the second battle of Bull Run. There were also, Jane, Ella, and Ebenezer, who left a son. Tenth and youngest in the Ligonier Valley family of Scroggs was Jemima, who married Rev. Alexander Harvy Elder,



pastor of McKeesport U. P. church and later of New Lisbon, Ohio. She died February, 1895, and left two daughters: Lilly, who married J. H. Ritchie, of Metz, Ohio, in September, 1897, and Mary Emma Elder is a teacher in Cleveland, Ohio.

## CHAPTER VII.

Jane Cowden and the Hannas, Who, in all Their Generations  
Have Had Ministers to Burn.

Another daughter of the good Widow Cowden who had located on old Hornhead farm in Washington County, Pa., in 1787, was Jane. With the courage of her sex, she too ventured on the placid-seeming sea of matrimony for a life voyage. Those romantic days of old were full of heart-throb and action and of character, notwithstanding the fact that the heedless flight of time has almost obliterated both trace and tradition of the events and of the actors. Youthful life in a day when the land itself was young had a golden sheen which has not been dimmed nor tarnished by the marvelous progress and change wrought by more than a century.

Jane Cowden married Thomas Hanna, a man of good Scotch-Irish stock and of staunch religious principles. While unable to speak of his lineage in old Scotia, the glimpse afforded us of his character in the pioneer days and the worthy record of his posterity commends to us the assurance that Thomas Hanna came from a family of sterling worth. He had brothers in this country, Robert Hanna, progenitor of the Hannas of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and Benjamin, from whom Senator Marcus A. Hanna, of Ohio, was a descendant. In the year 1782 he signed a remarkable religious agreement in which some four score of people of the community entered



into a compact to uphold the Christian religion and to oppose immorality and all ill behaviour. (See Creigh's History of Washington County, p. 49.) This covenant was more than a memorial of the Solemn League of the Scotch forefathers, it was a noble stand for religion before there was a church or regular preaching service established in the settlement.

The marriage of Thomas Hanna and Jane Cowden about 1786 was shortly after her mother had taken up her abode among the richly wooded hills of her new farm. When the husband hewed out and built his own log cabin and the bride spun and wove her own trossseau neither lads nor lasses believed in long engagements.

To this union five children were born: 1. Elizabeth; 2, John Cowden; 3, James; 4, Mary, and 5th, Thomas.

Elizabeth married Samuel McCune and had seven children. This account of the family of Samuel McCune is due to Mrs. E. A. Brownlee, who with patient kindness and with painstaking accuracy when in her eightieth year furnished the particulars of a large section of the Jane Cowden Hanna descendants. In the family of her father, Samuel McCune, were seven children: 1, Margaret, the oldest, was thrown from a horse and killed when she was six years old. 2, Jane, was married in 1837 to James Patterson, a farmer, and to them four children were born: John, Samuel, Elizabeth and Andrew. The boys are all married and have families, but Elizabeth Patterson did not marry. 3, Thomas McCune, a teacher, died unmarried. 4, Samuel McCune, died when he was quite a small lad. 5, A second Margaret McCune, died in her sixteenth year. 6, Elizabeth McCune, was married to Samuel E. Brownlee in June, 1848, and unto them were given seven children: 1, Mary A., now Mrs. James Maxwell, the mother of two sons, Rev. Montrose B. Maxwell, of Birmingham, Mich.,



and Clark Maxwell, a physician, settled in Pittsburg, Pa. 2, Mattie J. Brownlee, married Hugh Gabby, a farmer. (They have six children: Lee, a college student in Monmouth; Charles E., Mary B., student in Pawnee Academy; Alys H., Willie and Joseph, all at home on the farm.) 3, Clark O. Brownlee, died in his eighteenth year. 4, L. Ella Brownlee, married Rev. W. J. Buchanon, and from this union five children resulted: Lois, Lulu, Howard, Dales and Bruce. Lois in Monmouth College, the others in the public schools at Monmouth. 5, M. Bella Brownlee, wed Prof. E. E. Elliott. She died in September, 1902, leaving no children. 6, Lulu Brownlee, died in 1882



J. C. HANNA.

in her 17th year. 7, Etta Brownlee died in 1891 in her 22nd year. 7, Mary McCune, just younger than Elizabeth, was in 1846 married to David Patterson and had three children: Elizabeth J. Patterson married a Mr. Boyd; she had no children. Mary M. died when a young lady. Samuel M. Patterson is unmarried and travels for a firm in Cleveland, Ohio.

SECTION I. 2, John Cowden Hanna wed Martin and had five children: Margaret, Thomas, Isobel Jane, James and Elizabeth. A second marriage was to Rebecca Allison who had four children: Maria L., Thomas H., James R. and Hugh A.

John Cowden Hanna, who bore the name of his maternal grandfather, was born in 1789. After his





marriage to Isobel Martin he dwelt in the vicinity of North Buffalo Church, where, in the family burial plot, lie his children: Margaret, and Jane, also Thomas and James, who died in one night of measles at the ages seven and five, respectively. Elizabeth Martin of Hanna was born March 10th, 1828, and married the 26th of September, 1848, to James M. Leiper. To them were born eleven children:

Isabella A. Leiper, born Oct. 30th, 1849, died March 13th, 1856.

Hugh M. Leiper, born July 1st, 1852, died Aug. 9th, 1856.

John H. Leiper, born April 1st, 1855, married Jan. 4th, 1883, to Fannie H. Hardy and their five children are named Ernest, Harry, Thomas, James and Fannie.

Robert A. Leiper was born May 20th, 1857, and was married Sept. 8th, 1892 to Sarah Childs. They have one son, Charles.

Thomas R. Leiper was born April 11th, 1860, and died May 6th, 1864.

Martha E. Leiper was born April 21st, 1863, and died April 17th, 1864.

Maria H. Leiper was born April 14th, 1865, and died Nov. 4th, 1892.

Harper Leiper was born Nov. 16th, 1867, and was married July 12th, 1888, to Henrietta Sampson; they have one child, Vera. He resides at Denver, Col.

Harry T. Leiper was born April 5th, 1870, and died Aug. 14th, 1888.

Clark B. Leiper was born Nov. 20th, 1872, and died Feb. 22nd, 1899.

Mabel E. Leiper was born May 6th, 1875, and



was married June 12th, 1888 to A. C. Montgomery. Their children are Evelyn and Margaret.

2. John Cowden Hanna had as his second wife Rebecca Allison and to them were born four children, namely: Maria Louisa Scroggs, Thomas Henderson, James Rankin, and Hugh Allison, at whose birth the mother died and the babe died in early childhood.

Maria L. S. Hanna became the wife of William G. Maxwell, an elder in the North Buffalo United Presbyterian Church in Washington County, Pa. Their children are: John Cowden Hanna Maxwell who was married in 1902 to Mary Snodgrass. James Greer Maxwell is unmarried, and Emma Lou, the youngest, wed Rev. Neil Ferguson, who was the first pastor of the Second United Presbyterian Church of Indiana, Pa. Wherefore the writer, who is now their pastor, is able to testify to the affectionate esteem and respect in which Mr. Ferguson and his young wife were held. He is now pastor of the Spring Hill congregation in the State of Indiana and they have one daughter and two sons.

Thomas Henderson Hanna was born May 5th, 1837, and was graduated from Westminster College in 1856 and from Xenia Theological Seminary in 1860. He was pastor of the Fifth United Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia from 1862 to 1867. Of the Second Church of Pittsburg from '67 to '75, and of the First Xenia, Ohio, from '75 to '80, and of the First Monmouth, Ill., from '80 to June 7th, 1903. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater and by Monmouth College. In the year 1897 he was Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church at Rock





THOMAS HENDERSON HANNA, D. D.



Island, Ill. He was married to Mary E. Templeton of Washington County, Pa., on Oct. 16th, 1862.



Of children they had William Findley Templeton Hanna, born Oct. 15th, 1863, who was married in June 1900, to Elizabeth K. Elliott, of Philadelphia, and they now reside in Springfield, Ohio.

John Charles Hanna was born Aug. 13, 1865, graduated from Monmouth College in 1886 and from Xenia Theological Seminary in

1890; ordained by the Presbytery of Monmouth in May, 1890, and was stated supply for six months at Oakland, Cal., and organized the congregation there which is now called "The Charles Hanna Memorial." He married Ella Francis Porter, of Monmouth, Ill., Jan. 1st, 1891, and became pastor of the North United Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia, Pa., taking charge of the congregation on the second Sabbath of the same month and on April 24, following, he died of typhoid fever. His ministerial career was brief but of great acceptance and full of promise.

James Aaron Hanna was born in November,





1867, and married Frank Weess, of Keokuk, Iowa, in May, 1893. They have one child, Charles Weess Hanna, born June 13th, 1896. They live at Joplin, Mo., where Mr. Hanna is General Sec. of the Y.M.C.A.

Thomas Hutcheson Hanna was born July 18th, 1870; graduated from Monmouth College in 1893; from Allegheny Theological Seminary in 1896; was ordained and installed as pastor of Steubenville, Ohio, U. P. congregation in May, 1896, where he still remains.

Lyda Martha Hanna was born May 10th, 1872; graduated from Monmouth College in 1894, and was married on June 3rd, 1896 to Dr. Palmer Findley, now Professor in Rush Medical College, Chicago. Their two children are Thomas Palmer, born April 15th, 1901, and Mary Catharine born Oct 4th, 1902.

Hugh Allison Hanna, the youngest child of Thomas H. and Mary Templeton Hanna, was born May 21st, 1879, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa.

SECTION 2. Third in the family of Jane Cowden Hanna was James Hanna. He was married to Mary



JAMES HANNA.

Dickson and one child was born to them, whom they called Martha; born in 1823 on the farm near Cadiz, Ohio. She was married first to George Carnahan, a farmer who died a few months thereafter. On July 1st, 1845, she became the second wife of Rev. Geo. C. Vincent, D. D., President of Franklin College, who has been referred to in connection with his first wife, Mary Walker, a descendant of the Cowdens. James Hanna was a second time married, his wife being Margaret Rankin. There were

no children to this union. James Hanna was an



elder in the church at Cadiz, Ohio, while his brother, Thomas, was pastor.

4th. Mary Hanna was married to Rev. Joseph Seroggs, D. D. There were ten children born to them: 1, Margaret, 2, Thomas, 3, Jane, 4, Ellen, 5, John, 6, Elizabeth, 7, James, 8, Rachel, 9, Joseph, 10, Jemima. A fuller record of the marriages and families of these persons may be found in another section. As Mary Hanna and her husband were cousins, both were descendants of the Cowdens.

SECTION 3. In the line of the 5th and youngest child of Jane Cowden Hanna are many eminent ministers and Thomas Hanna, himself was one.

Thomas Hanna was born at North Buffalo, Pa., Oct. 4th, 1799. He was graduated at Jefferson College at Canonsburg, Pa., in 1818 and studied Theology with Dr. Anderson at Service, Pa. He was ordained to the ministry in 1821 and installed over Cadiz, O., Piney Fork and Willis Creek. From 1851 to 1862 he was pastor at Washington, Pa. He was Stated Clerk of the Associate Synod from 1842 to 1858, when that denomination became one of the constituent parts of the United Presbyterian Church. He died at Washington, Pa., Feb. 9, 1864, of paralysis.



REV. THOMAS HANNA, D. D.

Rev. Thomas Hanna, D. D., was married to Jemima Patterson and had ten children: 1, Robert



Patterson, who died in infancy. 2, also named Robert Patterson, lost on the Ohio river. 3, Thomas Beveridge, born March 27th, 1826, became a minister but died at the age of 26 years on Feb. 25th, 1852. 4, Sarah Jane, born Nov. 30, 1830, now living at Port Jarvis, N. Y. 5, James Albert, died in infancy. 6, Joseph Clokey, born Feb. 2nd, 1836, died while a student at Westminster college in 1853. 7, Mary Narcissa, born Feb. 2nd, 1836, and wed Rev. William J. McMichael, D. D. 8, Maria Elizabeth, born Aug. 14, 1838 and wed Andrew J. Sweeny, of Wheeling, West Virginia, who kept the city for the Union at the outbreak of the Rebellion. 9, Martha wed Rev.



J. B. McMICHAEL, D. D.

William A. McKenzie, D. D. 10, Amanda Margaret, died in infancy.

Of the marriages in the foregoing Hanna family, several are to be noted. Robert Patterson Hanna wed Esther Hammond, of New Athen, Ohio. Their children so far as known were James; Charles, who became a minister of the Disciples or Christian church; Alexander; Albert, who was pastor of





THOMAS HANNA McMICHAEL.

the U. B. congregation, of Johnathan's Creek, Ohio; and Elizabeth Jemima, who wed Dr. W. B. McFarland, of Cambridge, Ohio.

Mary Hanna wed Rev. J. B. McMichael on Oct. 16, 1862. He was born July 22nd, 1833 near Poland, Mahoning County, Ohio. Graduated from West-





minster College in 1859 and studied Theology at Xenia, Ohio. He was pastor of Sugar Creek congregation, Greene County, Ohio, 1862 to '78; was Professor of Church History at Xenia Seminary 1873 to '78, in which year he was elected President of Monmouth College. He was Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian church in 1895 at Pittsburg, Pa.

Of their six children, Thomas Hanna McMichael was born July 7th, 1863; graduated from Monmouth College in 1886 and from Xenia Seminary in 1890. He has been pastor of the United Presbyterian congregations of Spring Hill, Ind., and First Cleveland, O., and is now President of Monmouth College, capably filling the seat which the long and able administration of his father made doubly honorable. On May 21st, 1890, Thomas H. McMichael, D. D., was married to Minnie McDill, of Burlington, Iowa. Their children are Mary Lois, born July 10th, 1891, and David McDill, born March 5th, 1894.

John Charles McMichael, the second son, was born Sept. 1st, 1865. He graduated from Monmouth College in the year 1886, and at the Western Reserve Medical College in 1894 and is now a practicing physician in Cleveland, Ohio.

The third son, William Jackson McMichael, was born Nov. 10th, 1868, and graduated from Monmouth College in '88 and from Xenia Seminary in '92. He has been pastor of the United Presbyterian congregations of Uniontown, O., South Argyle, N. Y., and 5th Philadelphia, Pa., and is now pastor of Sugar Creek, O., his father's first charge. He was married June 1st, 1892, to Miss Jennie Beattie, of Salem, N. Y.

The fourth son, George Harold, died in infancy. Fifth, a daughter, Mary Grace, born Dec. 19th, 1873, died May 1, 1892. These were all born at Bellbrook, Ohio. The youngest son, James Star Eckles McMichael, was born Sept. 20th, 1880, at Monmouth.



III. He graduated from Westminster College in 1892 and is a student of Theology at Xenia, O.

In the family of Andrew J. Sweeny, of Wheeling, W. Va., were nine children, three died in infancy. Of the surviving, Mary, wed John B. Garden, of Wheeling. Sarah wed Charles Roemer, of Cumberland, W. Va. William H. is a lawyer in Wheeling. Frank is an electrician at Paterson, N. J. Walter is 1st Lieutenant, U. S. A. Edgar is in business at Wheeling.

As above mentioned Martha Hanna wed Rev. William A. McKenzie. He was born at Wellsville, O., May 14th, 1836, and graduated from Franklin College in 1861 and from the Allegheny Seminary and was ordained to the United Presbyterian ministry in 1865; was pastor of Sewickley congregation, Allegheny County, Pa., for six years and for 25 years of the Old White Church at Salem, N. Y. Two sons were born to this marriage, of whom Rev. Thomas Hanna McKenzie is now pastor of the Reformed (Dutch) church at Port Jarvis, N. Y. He married Francis McMillen, of Cedarville, O.; has two sons, Donald and Malcolm. William McKenzie, the other son of Rev. William A., married Jessie C. Grant, of Syracuse, N. Y., who died June 24th, 1902. He is engaged in the practice of law in the city of Syracuse, N. Y.

## CHAPTER VIII.

John Cowden 2nd, Who Had Two Sweet Wives and One Sour

Pippin.

After climbing so far out upon these collateral branches of the tree that certainly has flourished like a palm or a cedar of Lebanon, it is with a feeling of safety that the writer gets back to an ancestor of his own. John Cowden 2nd was born in 1758 at Paxtang, Pa.; died June 15th, 1827, at Hornhead



farm, Washington County, Pa. He came to this locality with his widowed mother and the unmarried members of the family about 1740. Probably the brothers that moved to Ohio came here first and perhaps the sisters, Mrs. McNary, Mrs. Scroggs and Mrs. Hanna came at or about the same time. Mrs. Cowden, with true motherly instinct, appears to have striven to keep her children about her even after they had grown up.

About the time she secured the actual title to the farm which she had been occupying, John was married to Annie Sloan of Westmoreland County. She was born in 1765, the only child of Lieutenant David Sloan, who was killed in the battle of Long Island. The marriage took place in 1786. She bore five children:

1. Mary, born Aug. 19th, 1787, wed Hugh Rogers, and died Aug. 15th, 1875, age 88.
2. John 3rd, born Feb. 25th, 1789, wed Mary Kelso and died Feb. 1st, 1855, age 66.
3. Robert Sloan Cowden, born Dec. 10th, 1791, unmarried.
4. Isaac Patterson Cowden, born Jan. 1st, 1798, wed Esther Nelson.
5. Reynolds Cowden, born March 29th, 1802, was unmarried.

His wife, Anna Sloan, died March 28th, 1802, at the birth of Reynolds, and he married again Jan. 29th, 1805. His second wife, Esther Struthers, was the mother of four children:

6. Annie Sloan Cowden, wed David McConaughy.
7. Margaret Scroggs Cowden, wed John Auld.
8. Jane Hanna Cowden, wed William Paxton.
9. Alexander Struthers Cowden, had four wives.

This wife died in 1819 and after due time he married a third wife who was Margaret Nelson. She had no children. Being a faithful and truthful his-



torian we are constrained to record that she did have a temper and a tongue which according to many traditions were unrenittingly employed during the five remaining years of my ancestor's life. After his death she contested his will and survived him 23 years, thus verifying the proverb that a woman will have the last word.

SECTION 1—An object lesson in spelling. The grave of the first wife is in the Oak Spring Cemetery at Canonsburg, Pa., just beside the spot where the old church once stood in which old Dr. Ramsey preached. It is a white marble block about four feet high, bearing the words:

ANNIE  
wife of  
John Cowdan  
died Mch 28th 1802  
In the 37th year  
of her age.

The grave of the second wife is at the U. P. church at Hickory, Pa. It is a plain sand stone slab thus marked:

IN  
Memory of Esther Cou  
dan daughter of John Str  
uthers and wife of John Co  
udan who departed this  
life Sept. the 18th A. D. 1819  
Aged 47 years 27 days

Blessed are the dead  
Who die in the Lord  
They rest from their labor  
And their works do follow them.

The grave of the the third wife is in the same grounds as is also that of John Cowden himself.





M A R G A R E T  
 wife of  
 J o h n C o w d e n  
 died  
 May 18th, 1850  
 In the 75th year  
 of her age.  
 Be ye also ready for  
 in such an hour as ye think  
 not the Son of Man cometh.

S A C R E D  
 to the memory of  
 John Couden  
 who departed this life  
 June 15th 1827 in the  
 69th year of his age  
 Blest are the dead, yea saith the  
 word  
 Who die in Christ the living Lord  
 And on the other side of death  
 They joyful spend their praising  
 breath

The peculiarity of these tombstones is that the good surname Cowden is differently spelled in each. *C-o-u-dan* smacks of pretended Frenchiness, which is impossible, as the only word in that language that can be twisted into any resemblance is a word that means left-handed. Undoubtedly the correct spelling is C-O-W, a useful domestic animal; D-E-N, a valley where she pastures. A Scotch name perhaps older than the discovery of America. By a mistake the stone cutter has the year of Mr. Cowden's death appear on the stone as 1829 whereas 1827 is correct. Evidently the stone was not erected until some two or three years after his death.

SECTION 2—A true story of George Washington. After his first wife's death *John Cowden* purchased on April 3d, 1802, a farm of 140 acres about two miles from Hornhead. This was a part of the Washington tract. A body of land containing 2,813 acres situated upon Miller's Run, a tributary of Chartiers Creek in Washington County, Pa., was owned by General George Washington. It was granted to him by Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, for services rendered by Washington, the young surveyor and soldier, before and during General Braddock's disastrous campaign of 1755. At the time of these first explorations this region was accounted Virginian and was eventually termed a part of Ohio County and of Augusta County and it was not until the running of the Mason



and Dixon line at the close of the revolution that it was conceded to be Pennsylvanian, although the departure of the tory Dunmore took out of the contest all bitterness. It is known that the Virginia Rangers, a body of irregular troops that served in the revolution, were gathered in part from West Augusta County, or Washington County as it is now called.

At the close of the war Washington came to inspect his lands which had been patented to him in 1775 as being in Augusta County, Virginia. The tract was fertile and well watered white-oak land with much natural meadow. Some thirteen families, Scotch-Irish Covenanters, had settled upon the land and made improvements, having, as they thought, a secure title from the Indians or expecting to get a patent from the State of Pennsylvania. The attempt to regain possession by ejectment or sale to the squatters was made September 20, 1784. A meeting took place at 'Squire John Reed's, (the same who drew up the will of John Cowden, 2nd). After dinner Washington offered to sell at 25 shillings per acre, or, if all were taken, to lease for 999 years at £10 yearly per 100 acres. The occupants made answer that they were unwilling to abandon the homes they had built and that they were not willing to pay for what their own work had made valuable when other lands could be had for less and that their case was entitled to respect because they were banded together as a religious community. The tradition relates that "General Washington became angry during the interview and having taken his red silk handkerchief in his hands he said, 'By God! the land is mine and I will have it as sure as I hold this handkerchief.' " 'Squire Reed promptly fined His Excellency 5 shillings for contempt. Whereupon the General apologized for his expression and the fine was remitted. Washington's title was sold to Matthew Ritchie for \$12,000. In due time the settlers purchased their farms upon reasonable terms.



After he had paid half it was bequeathed to his heirs. At suit of Washington's heirs the claim was sold for \$60 to Judge Alexander Addison—Ritchie's heir. On April 3rd, 1802, he sold 301 acres to James Scroggs, who left it to his sons, James and Reynolds. On the same April day 140 acres were conveyed to *John Cowden*. On this land he lived until his death when it was sold to William Crawford.

A tradition that *John Cowden, 2nd*, told his children that General Washington had entered his log cabin home was found in the remembrance of two grandchildren who had held no communication for a generation. No details were obtainable. It is probably true of his mother's humble home. Washington's journal states that in 1784, September 20th, he stayed over night at Canonsburg and visited his lands the next day. *John Cowden* was then 26 years old and unmarried. That his mother was in Washington County living in the vicinity of the lands in 1784 is indicated by the deed of Hornhead farm: "Which tract was surveyed for said *Mary Cowden*, in right of David Rankin, in pursuance of orders of the Board of Property Sept. 15th, 1784." This was five days before Washington's visit. Of the thirteen families said to have settled on his property only seven men are named in the suit of ejectment. Query: Did the Widow Cowden make her first abode on the Washington land?

At Washington, Pa., Court, Deed book 1. B. 243, under date Nov. 18th, 1785, David and Hannah Rankin sell to MARY COWDEN of Westmoreland Co., 163 acres in Cecil Township, for £100, they to pay for patent and record, surveyed for her Oct. 4th.

Witness: (Rev.) Matthew Henderson, Matthew Ritchie, Wm. Sutherland. Query: Is this the same as Hornhead farm?

Another tradition, elsewhere told, speaks of *John Cowden* coming to Washington County after his second child was born, or in 1789. It appears to be true that he was there earlier, but when he was married he settled for a few years in his wife's



neighborhood. During those years who ran his mother's farm? Was it his brothers who went to Ohio or one of his brothers-in-law? The section of Ohio where the Cowdens located was scarcely open for settlement before 1789.

When his mother, *Mary Reynolds Cowden*, died in 1824, her son, *John Cowden, 2nd*, purchased the title to Hornhead farm from the other nine heirs for the sum of \$1,000.00. By this time his son, Isaac Patterson, was comfortably settled upon an adjoining farm. His son, *John Cowden, 3rd*, with his brother, Robert, had for some time been farming Hornhead while, he himself, lived on the Washington land. His own death occurred three years later in 1827.

When *John Cowden, 2nd*, was a young man he worked in a blacksmith shop that stood upon the home farm beside the public road leading to Hickory. A young fellow who was learning the trade with him was frequently made the subject of some practical joke by our ancestor, who was blessed with a sense of humor. Upon one occasion, knowing that his bellows-blower was watching his chance to even up old scores John, while the other stepped outside to greet a passerby, heated the handles of his iron tongs and hung them carelessly over his arm. He stood with his back toward the door and began to blow the bellows with his other hand as if unconscious of the opportunity he was offering his helper to pinch his arm by giving the tongs a vigorous squeeze. The young man was quick to see this opportunity. He eagerly grasped the tongs in each hand and then more eagerly he let them drop without accomplishing the desired pinch.

SECTION 3—The protested will and sudden death of *John Cowden, 2nd*.

The will of *John Cowden, 2nd*, is recorded at the courthouse at Washington, Pa., Volume 4, page 280, and was signed June 25th, 1824; proved June 19th,





1827; protested Dec. 24th, 1827. It is as follows:

I, JOHN COWDEN, SR., of Washington County, Pa., farmer, conscious that I am in full possession of rational and disposing powers of my mind, but being of advanced age and taking into consideration the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time thereof and being desirous of settling my worldly affairs while I have health and capacity for so doing; now voluntarily and deliberately do make declare and publish the following as my last will and testament, revoking and disannulling all wills by me at any time heretofore made; and,

1st. It is my will that Margaret, my wife, shall have and hold as her own exclusively all the property which she brought with her into my house on our marriage, or whatever part thereof may be found in our possession at the time of my decease, and further that whatever property real or personal she may now possess or inherit hereafter in virtue of her father's will or otherwise, independent of me or my estate, shall not in any respect be affected by any of the provisions of this will.

2nd I give and bequeath to my daughters, Anne, Margaret and Jane, each respectively the bureau, bed and bedding which they now claim as their own All the property specified above shall be exempt from appraisement and sale.

3rd, It is my will further, that as soon as may be convenient and proper after my decease all the personal movable estate—the above exempted—of which I may die possessed shall be exposed at public sale and that the proceeds of such sale together with all monies and credits of which I may die possessed shall constitute a fund out of which I allow as much as may be found necessary shall be taken and appropriated for the payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses and that if any of the said fund shall be found remaining it shall be divided in equal shares to my daughters Anne, Margaret and Jane, and to my son, Alexander; but if any of these my children shall be under the age of 21 years and unmarried their dividend of the said fund shall be put to interest for their use and shall be given to them with the interest when they arrive at the age of 21 or at the time of their marriage whichever shall first take place. But if any of them shall die under the age of 21 years and unmarried, their share shall be equally divided among such of them as survive. The real estate or farm on which I now live, I allow to remain for a place of residence and means of support for Margaret my wife, for my daughters, Anne, Margaret and Jane and my son Alexander, or any or all of them, such of them as shall choose to make it their place of residence until my said son Alexander shall arrive at the age of 21 years, at which time I allow said farm to be sold at public vendue and the product of the sale to be disposed of as follows: First, to my daughter Mary Rogers, 50 dollars; second, to my son Isaac, 55 dollars; third, to my son Reynolds, 150 dollars; fourth, to my daughter Anne, 50 dollars; fifth, to my son Alexander, 100 dollars; then all the remainder to be divided in equal shares to Margaret, my wife, to my daughters, Anne, Margaret and Jane and to my son, Alexander.



5th, I do hereby ordain and appoint John Berry to the office and duties of guardian to my son, Reynolds, authorizing him to receive the sums above bequeathed to him and in trust for his use to put it to interest at his own discretion and my said son's necessity may dictate; and if my said son, Reynolds, should die without legal issue and if there should at that time be any of the principal or interest remaining, I allow said guardian or executor in trust to divide it in equal shares to my daughters Anne, Margaret and Jane and to my son, Alexander, or to such of them as at that time shall be found alive.

I do hereby appoint, ordain and constitute John Reed, Esq., the sole and only executor of this my last will. And finally, in testimony of the above being my own voluntary act and deed I do now set my hand and seal to the same declaring it and it only to be my last will and testament.

Dated the twenty-fifth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four.

Witnesses: John Cockins,  
Thomas Connors.

JOHN COWDEN. [SEAL.]

Proved June 19th, 1827.

### The widow entered the following protest:

I, Margaret Cowden widow of the within named John Cowden, do by these presents protest against the within will and do refuse to accept the within bequests to me made and do declare this my intention of taking the dower provided for me by law. Given under my hand and seal, the 24th day of December, 1827.

her  
MARGARET X COWDEN.  
mark.

The farm mentioned in this will is the Washington land upon which the testator lived with his unmarried children and his dissatisfied wife. Hornhead farm had by this time been given to Robert and to *John Cowden, 3rd*; the adjoining farm was owned by their brother, Isaac Patterson Cowden. Mary had married Hugh Rogers and was living near Canonsburg. These children having been aided to some extent in establishing their homes at the time of their marriage are not particularly mentioned in the will. The protest on the widow's part seems to have been peaceably compromised. (Considering her disposition the word peaceably is best omitted.)

*John Cowden, 2nd*, was a hardy, thrifty, thorough-



going farmer, somewhat self-willed, but who meant to do justly by all persons. He travelled on horseback to visit his brothers in Ohio and is said to have ridden in one day 60 miles, or more than half the distance.

His death was connected with a very peculiar circumstance that was never satisfactorily explained. On June 14th, 1827, he went on horseback by the path over the hill from his home near where Mark Cowden now lives, to Hornhead farm where his son, John, resided. He asked for some seed potatoes; not securing any he went further about dusk to a place where an old couple named Griffeth lived, about a mile back of the home of his son, John. John's folks supposed that he would ride home that evening. It is possible that he had attended to another errand before coming to his son's place as it has been asserted that he had secured the destruction of a will which was very favorable to his third wife.

In the morning word was sent down from the Griffeths that Mr. Cowden had been found lying sick and unable to speak in an old building used as a weaver's shop. John and Isaac went at once for their father, and as he was helpless they were bringing him home on a low sled. A short distance from Isaac's house, near a sugar maple tree by the road side, he died, without being able to give an account of what had happened. This was upon the morning of June 15th, 1827. The event was much talked of in the neighbourhood. The Cowden's felt somewhat disgraced. Several of the grandchildren relate that old men of the neighbourhood have said that there were rumors and conjectures that Mr. Cowden had been hardly dealt with as he was somewhat bruised. They relate also that their parents refrained from mentioning the matter in the presence of the children. The Griffeths were old people. They claimed that he had started for home and that they had gone to bed and did not discover him until the morning. They



appear to have had somewhat rough and dissolute ways and there may have been drinking and perhaps quarreling. Although the Scotch-Irish of that day were not opposed to the social glass, yet the character of John Cowden for respectability in the community does not allow the supposition that he started for his horse in such a drunken state as to fall and fatally injure himself. The kindest and most reasonable view is that he suffered a stroke of paralysis and, ere the morning brought relief, he was too far gone to explain. The exposure under a roof upon a clear night in mid-June would not be so serious. Loss of speech and speedy death are characteristic of paralysis or of violent injury.

The following letter expresses the general view of the grandchildren. Conversations with my mother and with my uncles agree in that very scant knowledge was ever obtained of the matter:

CANONSBURG, Jan. 12th, 1903.

DEAR SIR—I cannot tell you much about Grandfather Cowden's death. Mother thought he was abused. The Griffith's, she thought, could have sent word to the children earlier in the morning if they had wanted to. If I am not mistaken, mother thought the bed in the weaver shop was put there in the morning. He had made a will to please number three and another lady called Margaret Scroggs. His object was to get this will and destroy it. I never mind hearing my mother say much about it for it was a sad subject to talk of. When number three was brought home as Mrs Cowden the second set of children, Annie, Margaret and Jane and Alexander would be there. They were quite young. Reynolds, of the first set, would be there also. When John and Robert Cowden first went to the farm where Robert Cowden now lives my mother was sent along to keep house for them and she did not have a home again at her father's house. I have heard my Aunt Margaret Auld tell how the stepmother used to taunt them and call them ugly names. Uncle Alexander said that he could mind of sitting on the floor watching his father shave while she was scolding and his father told her to hush that she was breaking his heart. I cannot tell anything about the Sloans from Westmoreland County.

Yours truly,

CARRIE ROGERS.





We proceed with the narrative convinced that *John Cowden, 2nd*, was a man well thought of, vigorous, prudent and well-to-do, and assured that his memory is worthy of the respect of all his descendants.

Mrs. J. B. Strain, of Columbus Grove, Ohio, has supplied a few interesting reminiscences heard from her mother, Mary Cowden Rogers, in childhood. Her mother was the first child of *John Cowden, 2nd*, and *Annie Sloan*, and was so tiny at her birth that she could be placed in her father's shoe and that a tea cup could go over her head. She was wrapped in wool for the little body was too small to dress.

For several years after *John Cowden's* settlement in Washington County he would go in the fall of the year to Philadelphia for salt for all the neighbourhood: a necessity of which the people were very saving. He would take several pack horses. The journey was both long and hard and beset with dangers.

Regarding his unhappy third marriage, the wife, Margaret Nelson, brought her invalid mother to the home. She did absolutely nothing for the children, who were quite young to undertake all the household work. When they had prepared the meals she would take what she chose from the table and carry it to her mother's room and eat there with her. The last day of Mr. Cowden's life he had been away in the forenoon and coming home late found no dinner and the children endeavoring to make bread. After smoking his pipe he rode away on horseback to his son John's and thence to Griffith's. It is not known that he had any supper. His death has been recounted elsewhere.

Suspicion was awakened toward the Griffiths. Mrs. Strain recalls some kind of writing that was designed to take some action but she thinks nothing was done. After his death the widow removed to Hickory.

Of John Cowden's mother, Mary Reynolds, who was married at the age of 15 years and proved to be a woman of sense and piety, this tradition of her



blindness was told in the home of Mary Cowden Rogers. There had been no trouble with her eyes previous to the death of her husband in 1776. But at that time she wept so constantly, and for so long a period continued to grieve, that the doctors supposed the nerves of the eyes were weakened and the loss of her sight later was thus occasioned. Her blindness came suddenly. Her grandchild, Isaac Patterson Cowden, sleeping with her, urged her to get up. She replied that when it was daylight she would. The little boy insisted that it was daylight, and she thus awoke to the sad realization of her affliction. This was about 1802, if we suppose the child to have been four years old, and near the time when Annie Sloan's death had left her son John's five children dependent upon their grandmother's care.

Through the kindness of Mrs. Esther Blayney, of Grove City, Pa., the following data is obtained from the old family bible of John Cowden, 2nd. The book was printed in Philadelphia in 1803 and probably came into use about 1810. Several of the names are written in the same handwriting as the signature under the printed notice, This book is the property of "John Coudan." This is very much the best writing in the book and is that of a person of culture and quite womanlike in its smoothness, and might be supposed to be the hand of his second wife, since hers is the only wife whose birth is recorded and that in the same hand. Her death is recorded in a different hand which is the same that records the birth of her children and is possibly the writing of John Cowden as it looks like the strong hand of a farmer. The spelling of the name is uncertain. Cou-dan, -den, -don, are found. Is this an influence of the nice writer who wished to refine the name or her husband somewhat, or is it due to the fact that the Scotch-Irish called a cow a *couc*, a house a *hoose*, and for now said *the nouc*?



#### MARRIAGES.

*John Coudan* and *Annie Sloan*, Jan. 2nd, 1787.  
*John Coudan* and *Esther Struthers*, Jan. 29th, 1805.  
*John Coudan* and *Margaret Nelson*, Nov. 16th, 1820.

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*John Cowden* and *Mary Kelso*, March 6th, 1821.  
*Isaac Couden* and *Esther Nelson*, Jan. 30th, 1822.  
*Hugh Rogers* and *Polly Couden*, March 25th, 1823.  
*John Auld* and *Margaret S. Coudon*, Jan. 16th,  
1832.  
*David McConaughy* to *Ann Coudon*, Jan. 16th,  
1834.  
*William Paxton* to *Jane B. Coudon*, Aug. 4th,  
1835.  
*Alexander S. Couden* and *Margaret Jane Morrow*,  
April 21st, 1836.

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#### BIRTHS.

*John Coudan*, 1760.  
*Esther Coudan*, Aug. 22nd, 1772.

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*Polly Coudan*, Aug. 19th, 1787.  
*John Coudan*, Feb. 25th, 1789.  
*Robert Sloan Coudan*, Dec. 10th, 1791.  
*Isaac Patterson Coudan*, Jan. 1st, 1798.  
*Reynolds Coudan*, March 29th, 1802,

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*Annie Sloan Coudan*, Nov. 25th, 1805.  
*Maggy Coudan*, Nov. 27th, 1807.  
*Jane Couden*, Feb. 5th, 1809.  
*Alexander Struthers Couden*, April 12th, 1811.  
*James Couden*, April 25th, 1813.

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*Esther McConaughy*, July 8th, 1835, Wednesday.  
*Elizabeth McConaughy*, Oct. 2nd, 1837.  
*David McConaughy*, Jan. 14th, 1840.

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*John Granville Couden*, Feb. 9th, 1837.



Cornelia Jane Couden, Oct. 22nd; 1838.  
Mary Margaret Couden, Oct. 25th, 1840.  
Andrew Fulton Couden, Sept. 28th, 1842.  
Alexander Seluna Couden, July 2nd, 1845.  
Margaret Jane Couden, Nov. 3rd, 1840.

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#### DEATHS.

Annie Coudan, March 28th, 1802.  
Esther Coudan, Sept. 19th, 1819.  
James Couden, Oct. 2nd, 1815.  
John Couden, June 15th, 1828.\*

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\*As this last entry is in dim. erased pencil mark, it is evident that it was discovered to be incorrect. Reference has been made elsewhere to the date, 1829, on his gravestone. The correct date is June 15th, 1827. As his will was probated June 19th, 1827, only four days later, and was protested Dec. 24th, 1827. Two errors in a county record six months apart are less likely than errors in a family memorandum made years after or in a stone erected after long delay.

Mrs. Blayney writes that her mother often said she was 19 when her father died. Now, since Margaret Scroggs Cowden was born Nov. 27th, 1807, she was, in June, 1827, between 19 and 20 years of age. This is conclusive.

### CHAPTER IX.

#### The Success of Hughie Roger's Courtship.

The name Rogers is derived from *Hruod* in the old Frank language; *Hrother* in the Norse, and *Ruhm* in the German, meaning fame or glory. The first appearance of the name in history is Roger I. Count of Sicily, born 1031. The great grandfather of that John Rogers who was burned at the stake in





Smithfield, London, on Feb. 4th, 1555, and in addition, depicted in the New England Primer as leaving to mourn his untimely consumption, "a wife and nine small children with one at the breast," was a certain Aaron Rogers who fled from Rome to England in the year 1300 to escape persecution. Several of the martyr's grandsons came over in the Mayflower. A George Rogers came from Ireland. Of another George it is said that he was born at sea and rocked in a tortoise shell cradle. Naturally he should be accredited with originating the "Jolly Roger," that terrifying black flag which pirates fly from their masthead. The arms of these Rogers was a fleur-de-lis in chief, with a star in base, and a helmet for a crest. Their motto is worthy of adoption by all of that name, "*Nos Nostraque Deo*—Ourselves and our possessions for God."

Hughie Rogers was born in Ireland in 1785 but we cannot claim for him any certain connection with the foregoing. Doubtless his lineage is just as good. His fame and glory are sufficient in being connected with those who came after him. It has been previously stated that John and Robert Cowden undertook to till Hornhead farm after it had come into the possession of their father. Their older sister, Mary, kept house for them in the old log house which stood back of the present brick structure occupied by Robert S. Cowden. The present wash house used the old chimney and some of the timbers. The first log cabin of Mary Reynolds Cowden was in front of the brick dwelling a little to the Southeast of the yard. Girls in those days who were named Mary instead of being called Marie or Mae were sometimes called Polly. This Polly was a good housekeeper and when she went over to help the boys keep house she did her end of the work as well as the boys did theirs. One winter morning in 1820 while Rob and John were at work in the woods with their axes getting out logs for



a new cabin for John, (who expected to get married in the following Spring to Mary Kelso, while Polly and Robert would continue in the other house), their brother, Reynolds, happened along. He lived with his father on the Washington land, where, it would seem, Polly was staying for a few weeks while the boys had to bach for themselves. Reynolds was full of news. He told how Hughie Rogers from down about Canonsburg had been sitting up with Polly several evenings, and he was sure they were going to be married, and all the children were teasing Polly terribly. Rob threw down his axe and declared that if Polly took up with Hughie, John could have the house and he would live with them. It came to pass just as Reynolds prophesied. Hugh and Mary Rogers lived near Canonsburg and raised five children. Hugh Rogers died Sept. 7th, 1845, aged 60. Mrs. Rogers died Aug. 15th, 1875, aged 88 years. I can remember her as a frail old lady in a white cap and with a cane, living with her daughter, Caroline, not far from our home in Canonsburg. I recall attending her funeral and being taken to the graveyard in a hack. Her son, E. K. Rogers, of Washington, being in the livery business, had sent down a number of conveyances for the use of friends. Their first child, Mary Ann Rogers, died Oct. 11th, 1844, in the 21st year of her age. Her last words were a quotation from the last stanza of the old Scottish version of the 43rd psalm, Common Meter:

"Still trust in God  
For Him to praise good  
Cause I yet shall have;  
He of my countenance is the health  
My God who doth me save."

Her own personal Christian faith and the piety of her home training are both manifested by such a death. Another daughter of Hugh and Mary Rogers is Miss Caroline Rogers, of Canonsburg. She was a



life-long friend of my mother's, living on the same street but a few doors distant. As a boy I have picked her cherries, admired her tulips, and visited in her home countless times. She ever proved a reliable friend, a good woman with a kind heart and a bright mind.

There was also a son in the family named Hugh who died in early youth.

The third child of Hugh Rogers and Mary Cowden, his wife, was Elizabeth, who in 1830 married Rev. John Buchanan Strain, of Canonsburg, Pa. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, born at Bulger, Washington County, Pa. Was educated at Jefferson College, Canonsburg, Pa., and studied theology at the Associate Theological Seminary at same place. He died March 25th, 1892, at Columbus Grove, Ohio. Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers Strain still resides at Columbus Grove, Ohio. The children of this family:

1. Joseph Albion Strain, born Oct. 20, 1853, at Canonsburg, Pa. December 24, 1874, he married Miss Emma Worline, of Ottawa, Ohio, Rev. John B. Strain officiating. Died April 25, 1881, in Pittsburg, Pa., and is buried at Oak Spring Cemetery, Canonsburg, Pa. Left no children. His widow, Mrs Emma Strain resides in Sparta, Wis. Is a teacher in State Public Schools.

2. Ashbel Green Strain, born in Perry County, Pa., Feb. 3d, 1857; is located at in Los Angeles, Cal.; is unmarried.

3. Anna M. Strain, born April 28th, 1859, at Millerstown, Pa.; was married June 20, 1877, at Columbus Grove, Ohio, to Dr. J. O. Keller, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Rev. John B. Strain officiating. Children to this marriage are: LeRoy Keller and Albion Strain Keller.

4. Elmer Rogers Strain, born at Valley Parsonage, Mifflin County, Pa., April 10th, 1861; graduated at Wooster University, Ohio, in 1885, was a student



in the Boston University of Medicine at the time of his death, which occurred by drowning, Aug 14, 1888, at Magnolia, Mass.

5. Lou Netta Strain, born at Valley Parsonage, Mifflin County, Pa., Nov. 1st, 1862, married to N. F. Scott Nov. 1st, 1883, at Columbus Grove, O., Rev. J. B. Strain officiating. Resides in Holuolaa, Hawaii. (A government teacher.) To this union one child, Madeline, was born who died in infancy and is buried at Columbus Grove, O.

6. Elizabeth L. Strain, born July 1st, 1866, at Lewistown, Pa. Resides in Columbus, Grove, O.

7. Edward Lord Strain, born June 7, 1868, at Elizabeth, Pa. Graduated from the California School of Dentistry in San Francisco in 1894. Practiced in that city until his death which occurred Feb. 2nd, 1898. Is buried in Cypress Lawn Cemetery, San Francisco, Cal.

8. Charles Spurgeon Strain, M. D., born May 10th, 1870, at Paterson, O. Is practicing medicine at Rochester, Mich.

The remaining member of this family, Ebenezer Kerr Rogers, born Oct. 17, 1828, died Sept. 8, 1886, of heart trouble, at the age of 58 years. On March 4th, 1850, he was united in marriage to Margaret Allison. For many years they resided in Cannonsburg. In 1867 they moved to Washington, Pa, where they built a pleasant home on East Wheeling St. Mrs. Rogers died on Oct. 9, 1892. She possessed to a marked degree the grace of hospitality. She was, at the period of my acquaintance with her, a partial invalid, and at times a great sufferer. As a result of prayer and faith she acquired a patience and contentment that were beautiful and remarkable and manifested the sustaining power of Christian grace. At periods when her health improved, she was happy and cheerful. She died in her 66th year. The family of Allisons, to which she belonged, was among the earliest in Washington county.



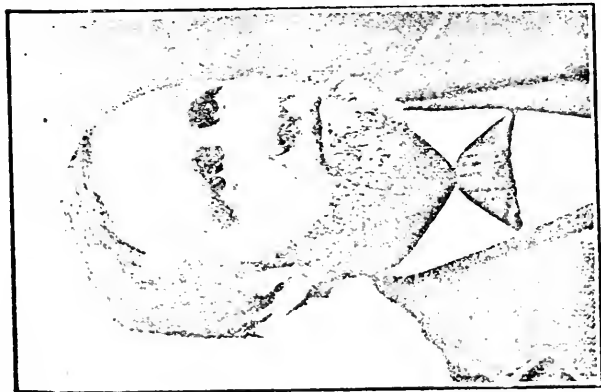


Mr. Rogers was noted in his life for his many acts of charity and benevolence. He was gentle and forgiving. He possessed one trait which was prominent—that of never speaking ill of any one. This trait was also prominent in his mother, Mary Cowden Rodgers. Mr. and Mrs Rogers had seven children, all of whom are living. The oldest, Miss Jennie A. Rogers, is Treasurer of Washington Seminary. To her is due a large amount of credit for the publication of these genealogical notes. Her interest and enthusiasm has prevented their being left in the oblivion of the writers' note books. It is with especial pleasure that this opportunity is taken to publicly thank her for her efforts. It was by her persistence that she stirred up the pure minds of the connection by way of remembrance to the furnishing of the money required to put the printing press in operation. Miss Mary M. Rogers, the second daughter, and Miss Jennie, live in the old home in Washington, Pa. Hugh Allison Rogers, the oldest son, lives in Washington, Pa., and was married to Miss Mary Murray on September 30th, 1885. They had three children, Florence Murray, who died Nov. 13, 1903, Hugh Donnan, and Bruce LeRoy. Mr. Rogers was connected with the State Militia, being captain of a home company. 4. Ebenezer Allison Rogers married Lizzie Critchfield. Mrs. Rogers died Dec. 28, 1902, leaving a son, John Cowden, a week old. Three other children are in the family. Francis Grace, Clark Allison and Margaret Allison. 5. John Cowden Rogers, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Rogers, married Annie Boyce. They live at McDonald, Pa., with an adopted son, George. The next son is Frank French Rogers, who married Miss Nora Lockwood, of Indianapolis, Ind. They have two children, Ruth and Zerelda. The home of this family is in Indianapolis, Ind. The youngest son of this family is Harry Hanna Rogers. He married Miss Augusta Fleming, of Anderson, Ind., where they now





MRS. MARGARET A. ROGERS.



MR. E. K. ROGERS.





MRS. MARY KELSO COWDEN



MRS. MARY COWDEN RODGERS



reside. They have one daughter, Margaret Elizabeth. Mr. Rogers has been City Engineer of Anderson for the past twelve years.

#### SECTION 4. Some generations of Allison's.

It is appropriate that something be said about the Allison family, since they are ancestors both of the Hanna and Rogers kin. John and Jane (Brownlee) Allison were natives of the Highlands of Scotland, who emigrated to Washington County, Pa., in 1768. On April 5th of that year they obtained a patent for 415 acres of land, afterwards increased to 640. They were the parents of nine children, eight of whom were sons. The father died in 1790: John, Gavin, Archibald, James, Thomas, Ebenezer, Hugh, the one in whom our interest centers; William and Jane.

Hugh Allison was born in 1773 on his father's farm in Chartiers township. He was a man of robust health and an active worker. At the age of twenty he was an elder in the Seceder Church. He was an ardent temperance advocate and one of the first to refuse liquor to harvest hands. He possessed a good library and was a man of pronounced opinion. He was strongly anti-slavery in his early years and after his marital career was well launched, a firm believer in womans' rights. He died at the age of eighty years.

In 1791 he was married to Jane Irvin, who bore him one child, Jane, who married George Morrison, and died in 187 in Mattoon, Ill., leaving 7 children.

In 1798, three years after his wife's death, Hugh Allison married Jane Brownlee, who died in 1802 leaving two children, Eliza, who married William Scott, of Ohio, and Annie, who died at the age of 14.

In 1804 Mr. Allison was again married to Miss Rebecca McBride, who died in the year 1818 leaving Maria, the wife of Hugh Lee, of Henderson County, Ill.; Rebecca, who became the wife of John Cowden Hanna, and the mother of Rev. Thomas H. Hanna,





D. D., and of Mrs. Wm. Maxwell and James Rankin Hanna, as related in another chapter. Two children by the third Mrs. Allison died in youth and there was another son named John who lived near Monmouth, Ill, and left a large family, and Thomas, the youngest, also lived near Monmouth.

In 1820 Mr. Allison, being then 53 years old, took a fourth wife, being married to Jane Gabby, a daughter of James and Janet Brownlee Gabby, natives of Maryland. To this union were born eight children. Jane G. Allison wed Joseph McNary and had nine children. James G. Allison married his cousin, Mary Gabby and had six children. Margaret Allison married E. K. Rogers and had seven children who have already been mentioned. The remaining children were, Archibald H. Allison, Hugh Brownlee Allison, Anna Allison and Ebenezer Allison.

## CHAPTER X.

The Bachelors, Robert and Reynolds, and the Tales Told of Them.

Although the second child of Anna Sloan Cowden was John Cowden, 3rd, my grandfather, we will not narrate his biography until all the other members of the family have been duly passed in review.

Of Robert nothing in particular can be said save that he was a very excellent young man and made his home with John, his brother. Robert Cowden died Oct. 12th, 1863 in the 72nd year of his age. He was buried at Canonsburg in a grave, as it happened, in which a child also called Robert, supposed to have been older than himself, was buried. This child is said to have been accidentally scalded to death in infancy.

There are several stories about Reynolds, who was somewhat under the care of all of his friends as well as under the guardianship of John Berry, according to the appointment of his father's will. He was a very



good natured person and in many respects shrewd but incapacitated from assuming all the responsibilities of life. He was everywhere a privileged character and his manner of life was after his own choice. He had a great liking for going barefoot. He could stamp out a thistle with his bare heel. He would run from the house to the barn and harness up a horse when there was snow on the ground without having his shoes on. Frosted toes had no terrors for him. He like some others of his day would carry his shoes to church putting them on only when he was near the place of worship. There was a matter told by someone and whether this is just the way of it is uncertain. He was out with a drover on some trip, and had a little money with him, which the drover persuaded him to hide under a fence rail until they would return. Upon looking for it on the home trip it was gone, doubtless with the drover. Another incident, which all my uncles remembered well, was this: Reynolds was picking cherries and slipped from his foothold but in falling grasped a limb with his hands and hung suspended about ten feet from the ground. Such a stir among the branches and such a rain of cherries drew the attention of his companions. Reynolds, realizing that his hour had come, cried out: "I leave all my money to Uncle Isaac's childer," and remaining no longer in suspense about so momentous a matter, dropped, and without further delay found himself sitting solidly and sorrowfully upon the grass beneath. The jolt did no damage but it overturned his benevolent intentions, for the first words he uttered were: "I take it all back." Thus at least the will and its codicil have been placed upon record in the family traditions.

Reynolds was buried at the Oak Spring cemetery Canonsburg, Pa. Unless my notes are in error his death is commemorated by these lines cut upon the base of his mother's marble tombstone:



Reynolds Cowden  
Died Sept 5 1863  
in the 61 year  
of his age.

The two brothers whose lives of more than three score years had been lived side by side upon the old homestead died within a month of each other.

## CHAPTER XI.

### Further Descendants of Annie Sloan.

The fourth child of Anna Sloan was Isaac Patterson Cowden. He was married to Esther Nelson and had five children. The first of them was Lilly Ann Cowden, of Claremont, Cal., who married Robert Thompson, whose death was in 1891 at the age of 72. There were six Thompson children: 1. James, wed Anna M. Snyder, and in 1886 died, leaving two children, named Robert and Minnie, both dead. 2. Rev. Alexander Wilson Thompson, pastor of the Congregational church at Etiwanda, Cal. He wed Sarah J. Miller. They have one daughter, Lilly Luella Thompson, a student in Pomona College, Cal. 3. Esther Isobel Thompson wed R. B. Jackson and had three children, viz: Elva L. Jackson, a teacher. lately wed a Mr. Sharpe, of East Liberty, Ohio; Rachel Raymond Jackson, now married and residing in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Sara A. Jackson wed Mr. Hollenbeck, an engineer; they live in La Plata, Missouri. 4. Elvaretta Margaret Thompson, who died in 1893 at the age of 39. Isaac P. and and Joseph N. died in infancy.

The second member of Isaac Patterson Cowden's family was John Cowden, who received the home farm from his father. His wife's name was Louisa Scott. At the time of our reunion she was present, occupying an invalid's chair, but with a bright smile for all her old-time friends. For many years she had



been afflicted with rheumatism and since that time I learn that she has passed away. Both her father and grandfather were named Joseph Scott. The latter was an early settler in Hanover Township, Washington County, Pa. Mrs. Cowden died Aug. 30, 1898.

This family of John Cowden was composed of eight members:

1. Isaac Patterson wed Alicia Guthrie. They reside at Canonsburg. Their children are: Elmer, Elva Ellen, and Harry Ellsworth.

2. Joseph Scott Cowden wed Margaret Williams and in their Kansas home these little sunflowers came into blossom: Bessie Luellan, Nora, Louisa and Harry Ellsworth.

3. Mary Isobel Cowden married James Guthrie. They reside at Canonsburg. This is an instance of brother and sister marrying brother and sister.

4. Esther Ann Cowden married John Hinchison and resides at Houstonville at the time of our report. Their children are Jennie Louisa and John.

5. Lilly D. Cowden died aged 5 years, 4 months and 5 days.

6. James Nelson Cowden.

7. William Anderson Cowden.

8. John Alexander Cowden. The three brothers were at home unmarried at the time of our reunion some years ago, but what their purpose was as to getting married was not learned.

Third in Isaac Patterson Cowden's family was Isobel Martha Cowden and fourth, Margaret Cowden. Both were unmarried and their home was for a long time at West Middletown, Washington County, Pa.

5. James Nelson Cowden wed Violet Glass. They removed to the West; resided some years in California and in Kansas. Mrs. Cowden died Sept. 12, 1902. They had three children: Lillian Martha, who wed Wm. H. McCune and had two children named, John, and Martha Violet McCune. Second,





Belle Nelson Cowden married A. B. Hollenbeck, and they have one child, Bessie Viola. Third, William Patterson Cowden; married Sarah L. Shaw; the names of their three children are: Violet Boyce, James P. and Mary Bernice.

William P. Cowden and family reside at Osawatomie, Kansas, and his father, James Nelson Cowden, resides with them there. The address of Mrs. McCune is San Jancinto, Cal., and of Mrs. Hollenbeck, Kildare, Oklahoma.

## CHAPTER XII.

The McConaughey, Auld and Paxton Foliage.

The descendants of *John Cowden, 2nd*, by his second wife, Esther Struthers, will occupy two chapters. This one containing the account of his three daughters after their generations.

Anna Sloan Cowden wed David McConaughey June 16, 1834. He was born in Chester County, Pa., and when he was about four years old his parents removed to near Hickory, Washington County. His father was David McConaughey, who was born in Ireland and who married Elizabeth Hopkins and had children as follows: John, Alexander; David, who wed Anna Sloan Cowden as above; and Elizabeth, who wed Thomas McCarrell.

The children of the marriage of 1834 were: Elizabeth, Esther, Mrs. Hammond, of Sago, Ohio, no children; Alexander, David, Margaret Jane, and Mary Ann McConaughey. Alexander wed Martha Jane Atchison and had six children: Anna Mary, John Calvin, a United Presbyterian minister; David Leman, Thomas Mitchell, Dwight Auld, and Harry Sloan. In this family which dwells at New Concord, Ohio, there have as yet been no marriages.

John Cowden, 2nd, had as his seventh child, Margaret Scroggs Cowden. She was the second child



of his second wife, Esther Struthers. She married John Auld, of Iberia, Ohio. To them were born four children: First, David N. Auld, now living at Martel, Marion County, Ohio; was born Nov. 9th, 1833. He and Maggie Wilson were married Oct. 31, 1861; she died on the 24th of October, 1882; their children were: Sylvia Auld, born Sept. 3, 1862; married to J. C. Laser July 21, 1885; no children. Elizabeth Auld; born June 12, 1864, was married to Mr. D. R. Vanatta in June, 1896; they have two children, one of whom is dead; she lives at Iberia, Ohio. Celesta Auld; born Oct. 12, 1865; was married to Mr. F. S. Colmery on April 22, 1886; they had three children, of whom two are dead; she resides at Braddock, Pa. Wilson Auld, born Jan. 23, 1868; died of diphtheria Oct 16, 1876. Irwin Auld; born Nov, 7, 1870; was married to Grace E. Douce, Nov. 25, 1897. Hattie Auld; born Aug. 13, 1872; was married Nov. 1, 1892, to S. S. Bricker, Judge of the Probate Court in Richland County, Ohio; residing at Mansfield, Ohio; they have four children: Grace Auld; born Aug. 2, 1874; was married to Mr. W. C. Swovelin on Oct. 25, 1899.

In 1883, Dec. 12th, David N. Auld was a second time married, taking as his wife Miss Hattie Wilson. A daughter was born to them Sept. 29, 1884, who died in infancy; another daughter, born Nov. 1, 1885, survives, being, Viva Margaret Auld, the youngest of the above-mentioned nine children.

Second. John Cowden Auld, of Iberia, Ohio; born Aug. 29, 1836, was the second son of John and Margaret Cowden Auld; he served three years in the Civil War, and wed Ella Hess Aug. 31, 1869. On Sept. 16, 1870, a son was born to them, but ere the morning light dawned its mother's eyes were closed in death. The child, named Edward Hess, died Feb. 1, 1871.

Third. James Auld; born Sept. 28, 1838; married Maggie Chubbic at Canonsburg on the twentieth of



November, 1862; they had eight children: John Cowden Auld, who died in early manhood; Mary Rebecca; wed Brough Dunham and had two daughters but is now dead. Harvey Chubbic Auld; born Nov. 10, 1866; died in 1903; was a teacher of ability. Samuel Martin Auld; wed Ora Brittan; they have three children and dwell at Iberia. Annie Auld; born Dec. 7, 1870, and died 1887. Arthur Lee Auld; born Dec. 7, 1872; married "two years ago" to Maybel E. Henderson; he is a farmer at Iberia. Jay McCarrell Auld; born Nov. 7, 1874; is a farmer at Iberia and unmarried. James Alexander; born April, 1876; wed Miss Finnie of Mansfield, Ohio, and has one child. The widow of James Auld now lives at Iberia, Ohio.

Fourth. Esther Auld was the daughter of John Auld. On August 5th, 1885 she became the wife of Rev. Henry G. Blayne, a Presbyterian minister, and now resides at Grove City, Pa. Rev. Blayne died June 5, 1902.

Jane Hanna Cowden, eighth child of *John Cowden, 2nd*; wed William Paxton, and they lived in Illinois and they appear to have had two sons: John Cowden Paxton, who lives somewhere in Nebraska. He was married to Laura J. Cameron; two children were called Bessie and Charles. James Rogers Paxton married Sarah Darrah and lives at Columbus City, Ohio.

## CHAPTER XIII.

In Which a Son Surpasses His Father Matrimonially.

Alexander Struthers Cowden, the ninth and last child of *John Cowden, 2nd*, was favored by the providence of God and the inclination of his heart in that he attained to the renown of having four wives. Alexander was an excellent man and each of his successive wives was an excellent woman, but his quadruple achievement of conjugal bliss is only paralleled in the entire record of the tribe of Cowden



by the good Dr. Isaac P. Cowden, of Ohio, in the early days. Somewhat similar to it is the *chef de œuvres* of that ancient worthy, Alexander Scroggs, who was the father of 21 children. A person who had a diversion for nosing out odd epitaphs must have stumbled upon the Scroggs burial lot when he found,

Some have children,  
Some have none.  
Here lies the father  
of 21.

Alexander Struthers Cowden was not only a good man, but he was eminent in his community for his respectability; and the character of the three families he raised attests his uprightness.

He was married the first time to Margaret Jane Morrow, who was the mother of three children: 1. Rev. John Granville Cowden, a Presbyterian minister, who wed Celia W. Chapman; their children were: Ralph, William, Norman and Robert; the two latter are dead.

2. Cornelia Jane Cowden.

3. Mary Margaret Cowden; wed Rev. William H. McMillan, D. D., who has been pastor of the Second United Presbyterian church of Allegheny City for more than thirty years, and is a man of great usefulness and influence in his denomination. The six fair olive plants that circled his table round have now grown up into young ladies, some of whom preside over tables of their own. 1. Margaret Jane; wed Andrew Linn, an attorney of Washington, Pa. 2. Mary Robertson; wed Dr. Samuel McNaugher, of Allegheny City. 3 and 4; Helen and Effie, are twin sisters. 5. Elizabeth Alexandra; and 6, Louisa Harrison.

The second wife of Alexander Struthers Cowden was Mary Fulton, the mother of four children, whom we number consecutively with the others; 4. Andrew Fulton Cowden. 5. Alexander Reynolds Cow-





den. 6. James William Cowden; died in infancy. 7. Esther Anna Cowden; wed William Beck and had two children.

The third wife of Alexander Struthers Cowden was Elizabeth Dunlap and she had five children. 8. Ralph Cowden. 9. Harry Cowden, of St. Louis, Mo. 10. Bessie McClelland Cowden; wed Robert Rutledge, of 720 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.; an elder in the United Presbyterian Church. 11. Sarah Cowden, died in infancy. 12. Celia Helen Cowden, wed Chester D. Wright, of Edgewater, Chicago, Ill.

The fourth wife of Alexander Struthers Cowden was Mary Halcome, who had no children.

Alexander Struthers Cowden is mentioned as a man of superior ability of a keen and kindly wit. He encountered numerous troubles with much cheerfulness. He lost his home by fire. Among the several children that he buried, one death was peculiarly distressing. A little boy of unusual promise and sunniness of disposition fell in the mill race above the great water wheel and was torn to death in a moment.

## CHAPTER XIV.

JOHN COWDEN, 3rd: His Cures for Snake Bite and Incidentally Something Concerning His Family.

My grandfather was the second child in the family of nine which were born to his parents. He was the third owner of Hornhead farm and is designated as *John Cowden, 3d*. He was born in 1789 upon the farm. He was married March 6th, 1821 to *Mary Kelso*. She was the first of ten children of *Mark and Elizabeth Ewing Kelso*, and was born Dec. 31st, 1796, and died March 26th, 1883, in her 87th year, of pleurisy. *John 3d* died at the age of 66 on Feb. 1st, 1855, as is supposed of dysentery. Of the Kelso, Ewing and Sloan families some interesting information is reserved for other chapters.



My grandfather was twice bitten by a copperhead snake. The first time upon the heel while plowing. The second time upon the hand while binding a sheaf in the harvest field. The first time the remedy was whiskey and fresh milk. The whiskey was obtained from a neighbor. Miss Harriet Denny, of Canonsburg, whose father was a tenant upon the Cowden farm, said to me when she was quite aged, that she could recall the day distinctly and that it was the only time Mr. Cowden was known to tolerate liquor upon the place. His position in the church and the manner of his father's death had established him in positive temperance views. He was an advocate of total abstinence greatly in advance of his time. Upon the second occasion the cure that was made use of was to bind a hot roasted onion upon the wounded hand. It may have been more painful than the other remedy but its moral influence was better.

In the old family Bible in the possession of my Uncle Joseph Cowden, of Venice, Pa., is the record of the family with which my grandparents were blessed:

1. Elizabeth Cowden was born Dec. 25th, 1823.
2. Joseph Cowden was born Aug. 20th, 1825.
3. Mark Cowden was born Sept. 22nd, 1827.
4. Margaret Ann Cowden was born Aug. 12th, 1829.
5. Jane Cowden was born July 23, 1831.
6. John Cowden was born July 21st, 1832.
7. Robert Sloan Cowden was born Nov. 10, 1835.
8. *Mary Cowden* was born March 11th, 1838.

Marriages and deaths are recorded there also, indicating that glad times and sad times came to this family as well as to others. Jane Cowden died July 22, 1847 at the age of 17 of brain fever. The next year John Cowden died Sept. 15th, 1848, of inflammation of the brain, at the age of 17 years also. Elizabeth died Aug. 5th, 1851, at the age of 28. Her health was impaired by the care and nursing of the others and a



consumption developed. John Cowden, Sr., (third) died Feb. 1st, 1855, in the 66th year of his age. Margaret Ann died Aug. 28th, 1869, in her 40th year. Mary Kelso Cowden, wife of John Cowden, Sr., died Aug. 23rd, 1883, in her 87th year, of pleurisy.

## CHAPTER XV.

Three Uncles Whose Broad Acres Yielded Oil and Gas Leases,  
Veins of Coal, and Railroad Rights, as Well as  
Harvests and Herds.

Joseph Cowden, my oldest uncle, is a farmer worth \$100,000, and an elder in the United Presbyterian church at Venice, Pa. His postoffice is the town of Bishop which has been built in recent years by the opening of large coal mines which have begun the removal of the excellent and almost inexhaustable treasure of coal which enriches the greater portion of Washington County. Lucrative options and leaseholds of gas and of oil have sprouted from the ground upon the farms of all three of the Cowden brothers. While no spouting oil well has been drilled in, yet the matter has been a not unprofitable though unexpected crop. The Wabash railroad in building to Pittsburg crosses a portion of Joseph Cowden's farm. With the spirit of a true agriculturist Mr. Cowden has always taken pride in the neat and productive appearance of his farm. His home is attractively situated upon Miller's Run and is surrounded with large and commodious barns and farm buildings.

Joseph Cowden was married on March 2nd, 1858. his wife being Margaret McCarrell. To them were given the following children: 1. Mary Jane, who on March 13th, 1873, married William H. Heagen, a groceryman of Canonsburg. Remembering with gratitude the generosity of this kind-hearted merchant to the urchins who hailed him for a gift on Christmas mornings and recalling his sobriety of countenance even



while the inner man was devising some joke or jovial bit of humor, the writer attests his worthiness for the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Especially if he continues to grow fat as of late years he has been endeavoring to do. Personal acquaintance with my two cousins warrants the guarantee that this family is A1. Joseph, his son, was married Oct. 14th, 1903 to Clara-bel Matthews. Martha, his daughter, is happy at home.

2. Thomas McCarrell Cowden, born April 16th, 1851, and married on May 27, 1875 to Rachel Welch, who died Aug. 28th, 1890. She was of the line of Welches to which my father belonged as other genealogical notes show. The relationship was more distant than is usually counted, being his fifth cousin.

The children of Thomas Cowden were: Ida May Cowden born May 16th, 1876, and died Aug. 14th, 1877. Second, Dessie Margaret Cowden, born Aug. 20th, 1878, and died March 4th, 1883. Third, Arthur Lee Cowden, born Sept. 23rd, 1885. Fourth, Joseph Ard Futhey Cowden, born March 11th, 1890. Mr. Thomas Cowden and his two sons reside upon the homestead farm in Cecil Township, Washington County, Pa.

3. Esther McCarrell Cowden, born Aug. 28th, 1854, and died Aug. 24th, 1863, being nine years old.

4. Martha Elizabeth Cowden is another cousin in my uncle's family who, like that other Martha that dwelt of old in the town of Bethany, has a well merited fame for the housekeeping arts.

5. Annie Delilah Cowden, born Nov. 18, 1858, married Campbell Ledly Reed, Dec. 30th, 1880, and died April 8th, 1887. Of three children, Ralph Rockwood Reed, born March 13th, 1882, and died Oct. 10th, 1882, was the first child. The others are Margaret Alberta Reed and Martha Maud Reed, who have lived their happy, healthy girlhood years in their grandfather Cowden's home.





6. John Ewing Cowden, born Feb. 16th, 1860, and died Aug. 16th, 1863.

7. Adelina Cowden, born March 23rd, 1863, and died Sept. 16th, 1880.

8. John McCarrell Cowden, born Sept. 9th, 1866; married Margaret McNary April 16, 1896, who died June 8th 1897, followed six weeks later by her infant daughter, Margaret. Mr. Cowden is an elder in the Hickory, Pa., U. P. church. He was married a second time, to Nettie Mitchell, and two children. Margaret and Joseph, are found in their home.

9. Margaret Cowden, born Jan. 13th, 1868, and died April 6th, 1896.

10. Dora Ella Belle Cowden, the youngest, is now living at home. The mother of this family, my aunt, Margaret McCarrell Cowden, entered into rest April 16, 1897.

SECTION 2. Mark, who was named for his grandfather.

My Uncle Mark Cowden, who bears the worthy name of his grandfather, Mark Kelso, is also a prosperous farmer in Cecil township. He was born Sept. 22nd, 1827, and was married Jan. 6th, 1853, to Jane Thompson. Their family circle kept enlarging until six sons and three daughters were grouped in unbroken array around their table and fireside.

1. John Kelso Cowden was born Sept. 27th, 1853, and was married July 3rd, 1879, to Lizzie M. Boyce. They reside at Hickory, Pa., and their children have been, Mary Alma Cowden, born June 12th, 1880. She was a bright and beautiful girl with fair hair and blue eyes. She had very capably fitted herself for teaching when death came with startling suddenness, and yet we may believe that her passing away was gentle and that she was in readiness. While upon the train returning from Pittsburg to her home she expired of heart failure, May 9th, 1899. Mark



Emil Cowden, born March 4th, 1882, Belva Cowden and Andrew Thompson Cowden are their three children.

2. Andrew Thompson Cowden, Sr., was born Sept. 20th, 1855, and wed on Dec. 20th, 1880, Miss Sadie A. McKnight. Their three children are, Mira, who died Dec. 1st, 1900, at Cameron, W. Va. Owen and Mark survive. They resided at Cameron, W. Va., where Mr. Cowden was engaged as a foreman of the oil field for the Wheeling Gas Co. Upon April 28th, 1899, a gas well upon which he was at work became ignited and in the explosion and conflagration that followed Mr. Cowden lost his life.

3. Joseph Alexander Cowden, born Sept. 13th, 1857, and married Annie Cummins on Feb. 17, 1887. Their home was at Primrose, now at Hickory, Washington county, Pa. There are four little blooming primroses growing in the sunshine of their threshold. Harry Earl, Clyde Howell, Joseph Lawrence and George.

4. Robert Russell Cowden, born Dec. 17th, 1859, and on Feb. 16th, 1893, married Miss Lizzie Vogel. Their home is at Hickory, Pa. As his brother's path in life is adorned with primroses, so it is appropriate, since the name Vogel in the German language means bird, that the hickory trees, if such there be, that shade the home of Robert, should resound with the song and happiness of little birds. Certainly there is a charm in the merry music of children's voices of which Jennie, Myrtle, Robert Russell, Ruth and Agnes are able to furnish a constant supply for household purposes.

5. William B. Cowden, born Nov. 19th, 1861, married Feb. 28th, 1894, to Susan Phillips. Harry Wayne, Mark Cline, Mary, Andrew and Glenn are the beginning of a family for them.

6. Elizabeth Cowden married Harry McNary Nov. 13th, 1884. They reside at Houstonville,



Pa. Their one son is Carl Marcus McNary, born Nov. 13th, 1885.

7. Mary Cowden was married Aug. 22nd, 1889, to Joseph Little, of Washington, Pa., and she is the proud possessor of a fine little family which she has judiciously increased, little by little, until there are the following little Littles to be noted, Edna, Ruth, Lila Janet, James Alvan.

8. Lyda Jane Cowden, born June 21st, —; resides at home.

9. VanEman Linsey Cowden, born May 14th, 1875, is the sturdy and capable manager of the farm at home; married Martha Mitchell, May, 1903.

On June 6th, 1903 my uncle and aunt celebrated their golden wedding. Not only were they blessed with a long, happy and useful life together, but their children and grandchildren, their friends and neighbors, were present to rejoice with them in the enjoyment of the rare event and to manifest the esteem and respect in which they are held.

SECTION 3—Robert, who owns Hornhead farm. He now possesses 530 rich acres and although considered wealthy he has not seen fit to leave the farm.

My uncle, Robert Cowden, the fourth and present owner of Hornhead farm, was born Nov. 10th, 1835, and on Dec. 29th, 1859, he married Margaret Allison. Their children were seven in number.

1. John Donan Cowden, born April 9th, 1861, and died while he was a student at Canonsburg Academy.

2. Mary Elizabeth Cowden, born July 4th, 1863. She was married on May 30th, 1882, to John Peacock, who died April 25th, 1893. She resided at Washington, Pa. Her children were: Mary Maude, born June 26th, 1883. Anna, was born May 22nd, 1886, and died Sept. 7th, 1893. Leroy, born Aug. 13th, 1888. Hazel born Sept. 13th, 1890, and died Oct. 26th, 1892. John was born Aug. 27th, 1892.



3. Emeline Cowden was born Nov. 2nd, 1865, and married Nov. 25th, 1880, to Robert Smith, who was born Oct. 24th, 1858, and died May 10th, 1895. Mrs. Smith lives at Washington with her sister. Her children were, Margaret Roberta, who was born Sept. 9th, 1887; James Miller, born Aug. 23, 1889, and Vance McClelland, born Sept. 19th, 1892.

4. Margaret Cowden, born Jan. 18th, 1869; resides at home.

5. Jennie Annetta Cowden was born Dec. 23rd, 1870, and was married to James Waldie, of Carnegie, Allegheny county, Pa., Dec. 2nd, 1896. Their son, Robert Cowden Waldie, born Sept. 8th, 1897. James Waldie died in April, 1903, leaving also a second son, bearing his name, James.

6. Robert Welch Cowden was born Sept. 26th, 1873; married Alcinda Hickman in 1898; they have two little girls, Margaret Viola and Emily.

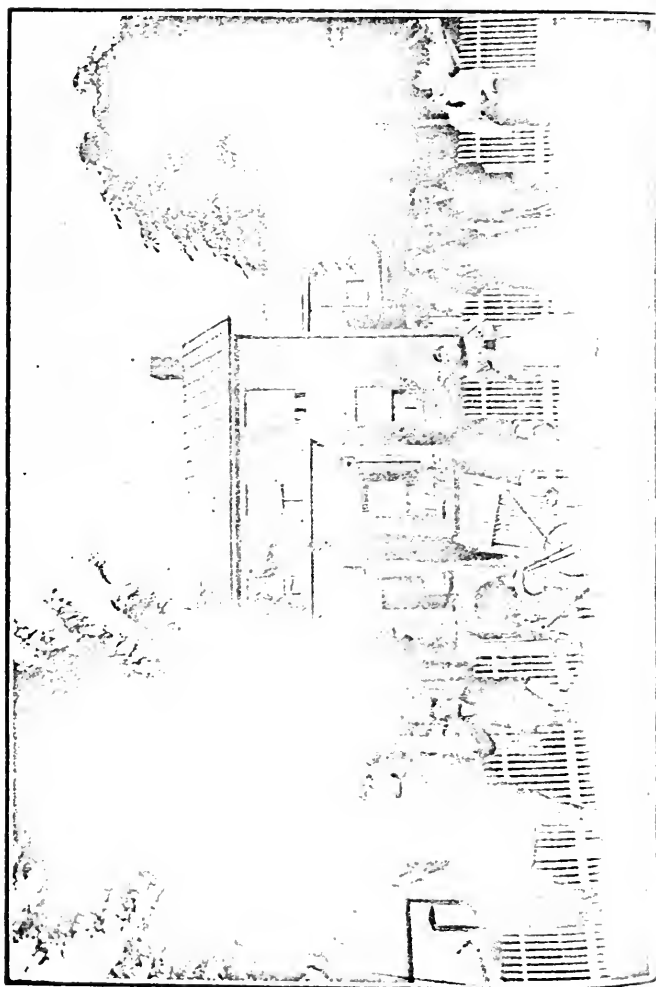
7. Joseph Lincoln Cowden was born Feb. 5th, 1877. His mother died soon after his birth and his grandmother Cowden in her old age took very affectionate care of this boy.

On Sept. 15th, 1880 my uncle Robert Cowden was married a second time. His wife was Margaret McDonald, of near Hookstown, Beaver county, Pa. Their one son, Donald Cowden, was born Jan. 12th, 1884.

On June 16th, 1898 a reunion of the Cowdens was held on the old Homestead farm in Mt. Pleasant township, Washington Co., Pa., that was designated by the name of Hornhead when it was patented to the first owner, the widow Mary Reynolds Cowden, in 1787. About two hundred relatives and friends were at the gathering, which was favored with an ideal day. Addresses were delivered, a few scraps of history were read, and a sumptuous picnic dinner was served by the kindred who lived near at hand. A picture of the assemblage was taken after the feast, also a panoramic









view of the homestead from the opposite hill. Altogether the occasion was most delightful. In the six years that have elapsed from that time to this many sad changes have occurred. The day will live in the memory of all who were present as one of unusual pleasure and interest.

Aunt Margaret Cowden admirably filled the duties of chief hostess upon that occasion and was assisted by the helping hands of many fair cousins. Her father, John McDonald, came from Scotland in 1801 when he was seven years old along with four sisters and his mother, who died upon shipboard during the long voyage. He lived to be 62 and died in 1858. The four sisters who came to America at the same time were, Jeanette, who wed Wm. Wilson, Abigail, who wed Aaron Atten, Nancy, who wed John Randolph, and the fourth died before reaching a marriageable age. John McDonald wed in 1821, Margaret Barkley, then aged 19 and who lived until the year 1890, dying at the age of 88 years. There were eleven children born to them. 1. Jeanette, wed Benjamin Chambers, of Frankfort Springs, Pa. She died May 31st, 1891, aged 66 years. 2. William McDonald, married Martha McConnell, living at Florence, Pa. 3. Joseph Barkley McDonald, wed Amelia McKeown. 4. Andrew, wed Martha McCoy living at Harshaville, Beaver county, Pa. 5. Elizabeth, wed Fleming McConnell and died Sept. 19, 1894, aged 63 years. 6. James, wed Margaret Stirling and died at Hookstown, Pa., 1879 aged 45 years. 7. John wed Sally Crooks and is still living. 8. Sarah wed William Anderson and resided at East Liverpool, Ohio. She died in 1889 aged 55 years. 9. Margaret wed Robert Cowden. 10. Allen wed Cornelia Anderson and lives near Murdochsville, O. 11. Maria Eleanor wed William Kinney and lives at East Liverpool, Ohio.



#### SECTION 4—Mrs. Miller.

My Aunt Margaret Ann Cowden married Reed Miller on Dec. 16th, 1862, and had one child, Mary Miller. My aunt died after much suffering from a sore upon her knee, July 29th, 1869. My cousin, Oct. 25th, 1888, married Benjamin Kelso, the fourth of ten children of George and Sarah Wallace Kelso, and resides at South Canonsburg, Pa., where she is encompassed about on every side by a large and happy family of little folks: Martha, Sarah, Margaret, Agnes, George and an *infant class* containing three or four promising members.

### CHAPTER XVI.

“Many Daughters Have Done Virtuously, But Thou Excellest Them All.”—Prov. 31:29.

My mother was the youngest in the family of *John Cowden, 3rd*, being the eighth child. *Mary Cowden* was born March 11th, 1838; married Nov. 10th, 1864, to *Rev. Robert Caldwell Welch*, and died on Thursday, Oct. 26th, 1899, at St. John's General Hospital, Allegheny, Pa., of pneumonia, after a sickness of five days, being 61 years of age. Dr. Welch being secretary of the Board of St. John's Hospital at the time of his mother's last sickness and being then unmarried was able to secure for her in that institution every care and attention that human skill could offer, but in vain. Her three sons were with her and her death was peaceful and triumphant.

*Mary Cowden* received her education at Canonsburg, Pa., being a graduate of Olome Institute which was a famous seat of learning for the culture of young ladies in the old days before the war. Canonsburg was then the location of a Theological Seminary of the Associate church and of Jefferson College which was one of the strongest and best colleges of the country in those days. All these institutions have re-



moved from the old town and its character has changed to that of a busy, thrifty, growing manufacturing place. As a student *Mary Cowden* was proficient, although of such fragile health that she was at times detained at home for a few weeks. In character staunch and true and in disposition merry and amiable, if we may judge from some references to her in the diary of Robert Welch when he was a student at Jefferson College in 1859 and 1860, and from the testimony of some of her schoolmates whom it has been my pleasure to encounter at various times and places. In 1903, being invited to officiate at the marriage of Mr. Herbert V. Smith, of Johnstown, Pa., I was privileged to make the acquaintance of his mother. During the conversation the fact developed that Mrs. Smith had been a schoolmate of Mary Cowden at old Olome. The delicacy of her health in girlhood obtained for her a more thorough education than the Cowden's have usually given their girls and at the same time her opportunity of romping the fields through the summer strengthened her constitution so that she lived long and was happy. What a pleasure it was to hear Mary Cowden spoken of as a lovely girl of splendid character who was very dear to the person fondly re-calling the long-past friendships of girlhood.

At the time of her marriage to *Robert C. Welch* he was a 2nd Lieutenant of Co. C, 22nd Regt. Penna. Volunteer Cavalry, stationed then at Romney, West Virginia. He had completed his college course and had attended one year at the United Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa., which he had left at the time of his enlistment. Mrs. Welch spent part of the winter of 1864 in camp at Romney. After the end of the war her husband was soon licensed to preach and was settled as pastor of the U. P. church at North Buffalo, Pa., and resided at Taylors-town, Pa., where he died in 1868, four years after





his marriage and after a ministry of two years. Immediately after her widowhood Mrs. Welch removed to Canonsburg and for a time dwelt with her sister, Mrs. Miller, but without delay purchased a five-roomed brick house at the head of Greenside Avenue, on Pitt Street. Here the writer was born on July 4th, 1869, six months after the decease of his father. The oldest of three sons of Mrs. Welch was Robert Lincoln Welch, born Oct. 16th, 1865. On March 27th, 1890, he wed Annie Eleanor Weir, of Washington, Pa. He is a United Presbyterian pastor at Redlands, California, and has three daughters, Eleanor Weir Welch, Mary Eloise Welch, and Elizabeth Cowden Welch.

The second son was John Cowden Welch, born Aug. 10th, 1867. He is a physician settled at Bellevue, Pa. Married May 9th, 1900, to Miss Pauline Hertzog. They have two sons: Robert Conrad Welch, and the baby is named John.

The youngest son was named James Marcus Welch. He was married June 2nd, 1899, to Martha Gwynn McLaughlin, of Philadelphia, and resides at Indiana.

When the three sons of Mrs. Welch were old enough to attend college she removed to Washington, Pa., that they might enter at Washington & Jefferson College. Mrs. Welch was always actively interested in church work. At Canonsburg she taught the bible class in the Sabbath School of the Chartiers U. P. church for some time and was President of the Presbyterian Missionary Society. In 1891-92 she resided at Philadelphia, two of her sons at that time being located there. James as Pastor's Assistant in the 2nd U. P. church and John, completing his medical studies in the University of Pennsylvania and the Medico-Chirurgical College. In 1893 and 1895 she was with her son, James, at Olympia, Washington. After this until her death she resided at Bellevue, Pa., where the Doctor had established his office.



My mother was accustomed to recognize the aid of Divine Providence in the manner in which she had overcome the difficulties of her early widowhood and her lack of financial resources and of physical strength, for she was never of a vigorous or robust health and yet she was never sick. Her entire means were invested in the little home that was first purchased at Canonsburg and there seems to have been no particular aid received either from her father-in-law or from her mother. The rent of a couple of rooms to students was her maintenance. When the children had passed the public school period of their education she was granted a pension and back pay for the services rendered by her dead soldier husband. With a part of this a home was purchased in the suburbs of Washington, upon which by and by an oil well was sunk that produced at the rate of fifty barrels per day for a time. Her royalty upon this she shared equally with her children. Not only were these fortunate occurrences unforeseen but they were also timely and adequate for the purposes to the achievement of which she had nobly devoted the energies of her life, the thorough education of her sons. Like the wise mother that she was, she entered into the school interests and sports of her sons. A native refinement and culture enabled her to be sympathetic and companionable throughout the whole progress of their studies. Restraint and prohibitive discipline were not employed in her system of home government which was based wholly upon the ideas of community of interest, fellowship and mutual confidence and affection. Whatever her sons may be or may acquire is due largely to her beneficent influence and Christian discretion so that they may well cherish her memory with reverence and, as she did, thank God, and trust in Him.

She is interred by the side of her husband in the beautiful cemetery at Washington, Pennsylvania in a lot which was given to her by



the congregation of North Buffalo United Presbyterian church at the time when their young pastor died and with the deed of the lot was a contract for its perpetual care.



MR. I. P. COWDEN.



MRS. I. P. COWDEN.

## CHAPTER XVII.

The Kelso Clan. Mother's Mother Was Mary Kelso.

Kelso is a town in Scotland, finely placed on the north side of the River Tweed opposite the mouth of the River Teviot. The name was anciently Kalchou Calchou and is identical with the word calc or chalk, and is supposed to have originated from a precipitous bank of white gypsum or chalk which is still called by the people of the place, "The Chalkheugh." The town owed its early importance and perhaps its origin to a richly endowed abbey of Tironensian monks established at Selkirk in 1113 A. D. by King David of Scotland while he was yet Prince of Cumbria. After his accession to the throne of Scotland in 1124 the



abbey was transplanted "to the church of the blessed Virgin Mary on the bank of the Tweed beside Roxbury in the place called Calcou." This abbey was ruined in 1545 by the English under the Earl of Hertford. The population of this town of Kelso in 1890 was about 5,000.

The Kelso family is known to us as a Scotch Covenanter stock that has thriven in Pennsylvania since 1720. It claims derivation from Hugo de Kelso, of Kelso land, in Ayrshire, Scotland, who lived in 1296. The coat of arms ascribed to the family branch in Pennsylvania is: "Sable, a fesse argent engrailed, between three garbs or." The motto is given as *Otium cum dignitate*, (Ease with Honor) flourished about a crest of a garb or, which is to say, a sheaf of golden wheat. (Origin and Insigna of Scottish Names. 924.5 S: 5 New York State Library at Albany. Also in Book of Scottish Arms A. D. 1370 to 1678, Vol. 2, Page 414, by William Patterson, Edinburg, Scotland.) The Kelso arms are said to have been conferred in 1636.

"Huwe Kelshou, of Ayrshire, swore fealty to Edward 1st of England in 1296."

"Richard de Kelchou witnessed a charter of Helen de Kelchou to the Bishop of Glasgow in 1233."

"Humphrey de Kelchou witnessed a resignation of Allan de Sarei to the church of St. Mary at Kelso in 1260."

These early Kelsos are doubtless of Norman origin for King David, who began his reign in 1224 and was the founder of the monastery, engaged in three wars with England in behalf of his niece, Matilde or Maude, whose claim to the English throne as the successor of Henry 1st was unsuccessful. King David associated with himself many Norman knights and also brought from France many clergy for the monasteries and schools which he founded. The names of Hugo and Humphrey are French rather than Scotch.





My mother's grandfather, *Mark Kelso*, was born Dec. 20th, 1769, and died March 7th, 1853 of "old age and ossification of the arteries," according to the return made to the County record by Dr. J. H. Donan, of Hickory, who attended him. It is also there stated that his residence was in Mt. Pleasant township, Washington county, Pa. This indicates that he died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Cowden. He was interred at the Associate Reformed church, of Robinson's Run, Allegheny county, Pa., (then Washington county) near the town of Oakdale. His age was 84 years.

His father was *George Kelso* and his mother was *Mary Kelso* nee Kerr, and the place of his birth was Cumberland, Md. He was of medium height and of sandy complexion and had all his life been a farmer. "When well advanced in years he received an injury while putting a bridle on a beast that had a fashion of jerking up its head; he slipped and fell, his thigh striking upon a half bushel measure, breaking the hip joint." He was thereafter confined to his chair and to the use of crutches.

My Uncle Joseph Cowden and my Uncle Mark Cowden, who were young men at the time of his death, have told me that they remember to have heard of his being a revolutionary soldier at the age of 17 years. This is incorrect and yet there must be some basis of fact for the statement. *Mark Kelso* would be in his seventeenth year in 1785 and 86 and at that time most of the able men of the community were in the militia organization. In 1785 in Finley township the McIntosh family of ten persons were killed by the Indians. In 1780 two men were killed on Robinson's Run which was in the very near neighbourhood of *Mark Kelso's* home. On April 5th, 1783, his aunt, Mrs. Walker, was taken prisoner but escaped. In the same year the Boice family were taken prisoners near Canonsburg and a man was killed by the



same party of Indians near to Washington county court house. In 1784 two men were killed on Cross Creek. The settlements upon the creeks that flow into the Ohio were especially liable to the invasion of the savages who could readily escape west of the river beyond pursuit. The campaign against the Shawnees and Delawares west of the Ohio under George Rogers Clark in 1780 and 81 was for the defense of these frontier settlements, but the Lieutenant of Washington county, James Marshall, was not favorable to the enterprise and probably few of the Rangers in his command were with Clark. The expedition met with severe reserves and was not effective in stopping the incursions of the savages upon the settlements of the western counties. In the Spring of 1782 Col. David Williamson set off with 160 men living on the Monongahela to attack the Wyandottes. They, however, fell upon the villages of the Moravian converts on the Muskingum river which made no resistance. In a most horrible, unjustifiable, vindictive and deliberate manner the white savages went among the defenceless Indians whom they had imprisoned the day before in a couple of the log huts of the village and slaughtered with hatchet and knife thirty-three men and sixty-six women and children.

This disgraceful and cowardly act drove to frenzy those Indians who were their real foemen and made matters far worse for the western counties. In the summer of 1782 the expedition under Col. William Crawford crossed the Ohio to reach the hiding places of the Indians. On the sixth of June they were engaged by overwhelming numbers of the ambushed Indians and their forces were defeated and scattered. Col. Crawford was captured and his torture and death with all the cruel and sickening atrocities of a savage vengeance is recorded by Dr. Knight, who escaped. The burning of Crawford did not expiate the massacre of the Moravians. The



settlers were liable to hear the Indian halloo at any moment. The dozen forts and block houses which were scattered over what is now Allegheny county were resorted to each spring, or harvest, or fall, when the Indian alarms were raised, that the brave settlers might there make their united stand against the terror of the tomahawk and scalping knife. This continued until 1792 when General Anthony Wayne was sent against the Western Indians and subdued them and secured the treaty of 1795.

If, therefore, *Mark Kelso* saw service at the age of 17, it was only to drill with the militia. He was too young for the early expeditions and if he was with Wayne on his campaign he would have been 25 years of age and undoubtedly would have more vividly impressed the memory of those stirring scenes upon his grandchildren. Was his father in the Revolution?

At the age of 27, on Feb. 4th, 1796, Mark Kelso was married to Elizabeth Ewing and their children were ten in number:

1. *Mary Kelso*, born Dec. 31st, 1796, and wed *John Cowden*.

2. *Jane Kelso*, born Oct. 1st, 1799, wed *George Robb*.

3. *Elizabeth*, born Nov. 24th, 1801, died unmarried in 1885.

4. *Anna*, born March 23rd, 1804, died Aug. 31, 1819, at the age of 15 years.

5. *George Kelso*, born April 6th, 1806, wed *Maria Rankin* and had *Mary J.*, *Rankin*, *Elizabeth*, *Abigail* and *William*.

6. *James Kelso*, born Aug. 1st, 1809, was wed three times. First, *Eliza M. Elder*, and had three children, *William*, *Mark* and *John*.

7. *Esther*, born Dec. 10th, 1811, unmarried.

8. *John Kelso*, born Sept. 17th, 1813, married *Elizabeth Stafford* and had one daughter called *America*.



9. Martha, born Dec. 26th, 1816, and died March 7th, 1853.

10. Letitia Ann, born Aug. 18th, 1819. The mother died at the birth of this child who was raised by the oldest of the family, *Mary*, after she had become the wife of *John Cowden*, which took place when this child was three years old. Letitia Ann married John Gregg and had seven children: Mark, Levi, Ellsworth, Elizabeth, Esther, Emma and Mary.

Elizabeth Kelso, the third child, became slightly deranged at the age of about 20 years. There was a rumor of a broken engagement as the possible cause. She was an expert needlewoman and made for herself a fine long veil which she insisted upon wearing on occasions that were thought to be sufficiently great. After her father's death she continued to set a plate for him at the table and always expected his return before they would be through. Upon one occasion she burned sulphur in the house to smoke the devil out. She was never a charge upon others and her mind never assumed harmful or more serious delusions than heretofore mentioned.

Among the records of Allegheny county at the courthouse in Pittsburg was found in deed book 2, page 291, notice of a sale of land under date of Sept. 11, 1794, sold to *Mark Kelso* (then aged 25) a piece of land called Colebank on Campbell's Run, a branch of Chartiers Creek, containing 100 acres, for the sum of £75. This was patented to John Bail, March 19th, 1789. *James Ewing*, the Recorder of Deeds was father-in-law of *Mark Kelso*. The writer received from Mark Cowden a pair of large round-eyed brass spectacles that were used by *Mark Kelso*.

It appears that the Kelsos and Cowdens first settled in the Paxtang neighbourhood on the Susquehanna river and that they moved to the Washington county region when it began to be settled. It is somewhat surprising to find how these various





communities of Scotch-Irish contain the names of related families. These folk were clannish by nature. Clannishness has been characteristic of the Gael in all history, their religion, their poverty and defencelessness, their national traits and their extended family relationships contributed to keep up in the new settlements this tribal bond of blood affinity.

Considerable difficulty arises in the effort to arrange the family ties of the Kelsos. Mark had a brother George, whose will is recorded in the court house at Pittsburg, dated Aug. 6th, 1842. It gives his wife's name as Agnes and names a brother, Benjamin, and gives the names of his, the testator's children, John, the oldest; Rebecca, married; Benjamin, incapable; and Mark, the youngest, not yet twenty-one.

*Mark Kelso's* parents, *George* and *Mary Kelso*, resided at Cumberland at the time of his birth. William Kelso, who died at Cumberland, and Joseph Kelso, who kept the west side of the ferry over the Susquehanna river in 1729 while John Harris (founder of Harrisburg) and his father kept the east side, are supposed to have been uncles of Mark Kelso. Possibly the father of these three sons was *Joseph Kelso*, who appears to have come to Paxtang about 1727 and whose wife's name was *Margaret*. These then would be the grandparents of *Mark Kelso*.

In the book of the Paxtang Sesqui-Centennial published in 1890, page 258, mention is made of the school kept by Joseph Allen and under the date of Aug. 31st, 1782, William Kelso is credited with tuition for John, four and a half months; Rebecca, five months; Thomas, four and a half months; Jane, three months; Joseph, five and a half months. This William Kelso was son or nephew of the William who died at Cumberland. There is a grave at Paxtang of one of these school children. It is of Dr. Joseph Kelso, who died Aug. 19th, 1817, in the 44th year of



his age. Thus he was born in 1773 and was nine years old when he went to Joseph Allan's school. His wife, Elizabeth, died April 8th, 1818, in her 34th year. There is also a stone commemorating the death of William Kelso, who departed this life May 22, A. D. 1807, in his 49th year, and of Thomas, young son of William Kelso, died in 1807. This lad could not have been the school boy Thomas of 1782, as in that case he would be 30-years old in 1807. Neither could this William Kelso be paying for five children of school age in 1782, because then he would have been in his 24th year.

Upon a revolutionary tax list of Paxtang township appear the names of William Kelso and James Cowden.

By simply inserting these items for the benefit of some future investigator we do all in our power to explain the relationships of these early kindred.

The graves of *Mark Kelso* and of *Elizabeth Ewing Kelso*, his wife, are in the cemetery of the Robinson Run U. P. church near Oakdale, Pa. Both stones are of the same style, about four feet high of neatly constructed marble.

Mark Kelso  
died  
March 7th 1853  
in the 84th year  
of his age.

-----  
Blessed are the dead  
which die in the Lord  
from henceforth Yea, saith  
the Spirit that they may  
rest from their labors and  
their works do follow them.

Elizabeth  
wife of  
Mark Kelso

Sep. 2nd 1819  
in the 42nd year  
of her age.

-----  
There remaineth therefore  
a rest to the people of God.

The will of *Mark Kelso* is recorded at Washington, Pa., in the Recorder's Office, Vol. 7. page 277. It was signed Aug. 1st, 1852, and is as follows:

I, Mark Kelso, of Mount Pleasant Township, in Washington County, and State of Pennsylvania, do



make this my last will and testament as follows: viz:

I will and bequeath to my son George Kelso the farm upon which we now live, upon his punctual payment of all debts against my estate growing out of the settlement thereof or otherwise.

Also to his sisters the sums herein severally bequeathed to them.

To my daughter Elizabeth I leave the sum of one thousand dollars to be paid to herself or to her guardian.

To my daughter, Mary, I leave the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars to be paid to her five years after my decease.

To my daughter Martha, I leave the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars to be paid to her within five years after my decease.

To my son James, I allow and leave the share which he has already received from me, provided however he shall be required to pay the note which I hold on him for two hundred dollars, to my daughter Elizabeth, exclusive of the sum bequeathed to her as above mentioned Interest thereon not to be charged until demand of payment.

I also allow to my daughter Esther all the household furniture and the cows, which articles I consider as already belonging to her.

And to Elizabeth I leave her bed and bedding and bureau.

And I also hereby appoint my son George Kelso and my friend George Robb the executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I do hereunto set my hand and seal this first day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty two.

Attest

Mark Kelso (seal)

John Phillips,

John Reed.

John Scott.



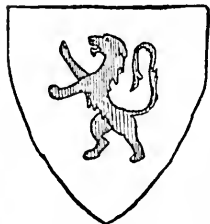
A certain Lieutenant Kelso of the 2nd Regiment of levies was killed Nov. 4th 1791, in St. Clair's defeat.

At Brookville, Jefferson Co., Pa., are many Kelsos descended from John Kelso of north of Ireland who came to America about 1800. His grandson, Capt. J. H. Kelso an elder in Jefferson U. P. church near Brookville, was introduced as a soldier of the union with a record of much bravery and many wounds.

George Kelso owned land in Westmoreland Co.

## CHAPTER XVI.

A Daughter of the Revolution.



SLOAN ARMS.

The first wife of *John Cowden*, 2nd, was *Annie Sloan*. She was born in 1765 and married to *John Cowden* at the age of 21, while she lived in Westmoreland county, Pa., and died March 28th, 1802. Her grave is at Oak Spring cemetery, Canonsburg, Pa. It is a neat white marble block.

Annie  
wife of

John Cowden

Died March 28th, 1802

In the 37th year  
of her age.

"When *John Cowden* and *Annie Sloan* came to Washington county their oldest child, Mary, was carried in a wicker basket fastened to a horse's pack saddle and *John*, the second child, was an infant in his mother's arms." This would fix their advent about 1790. The sole information which my mother could give of her was that she was from a Scotch Presbyterian family that had settled east of the mountains near Carlisle. About 1840 two men named Sloan came to visit the Cowdens and paid to each of





the five heirs of *Annie Sloan* a sum of fifty or one hundred dollars. Mrs. J. B. Strain, then 12 years of age, recalls their visit to her mother, Mary Cowden Rogers. They were called cousins. It is not known now if this was the settlement of *Annie Sloan's* mother's estate or that of some uncle, a father's brother. Certainly the long horseback journey by strangers was evidence of scrupulous honesty.

Further facts of a very interesting character have been verified in regard to the Sloans.

In the Reference room of the Carnegie Library at Allegheny is a volume, Notes and Queries for the year 1899. Upon page 283 of this book you may read: "Feb. 8th, 1785, *Mary Sloan*, widow of *David Sloan*, a 2nd lieutenant of the First Penna. Regiment, killed Aug. 27th, 1776, at the battle of Long Island; applied for a pension in Westmoreland county."

In a state publication, Pennsylvania in the Revolution, by John B. Linn and Wm. B. Egle. Harrisburg, Pa. 1880. Vol. 1, Page 226 is found "Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment. Colonel Samuel Miles. Roll of Capt. Joseph Erwin's Company." This company was raised in Westmoreland County and joined the Regiment at Marcus Hook below Philadelphia. It was subsequently included in the 13th Penna. Regiment and then in the Second and finally discharged at Valley Forge Jan. 1st, 1788, by reason of expiration of term of enlistment. Its engagements were, Long Island, White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Quibbletown, Brandywine, and German town. "Second Lieutenants. Carnahan—*Sloan David*; from third Lieutenant August 9th, 1776; killed in battle Aug. 27th, 1776; left a widow *Mary* and a daughter *Ann* age 11; in 1789, residing in Westmoreland County. Third Lieutenants. *Sloan David*, appointed March 19th, 1776; promoted second lieutenant to date from August 9th, 1776."

That *Ann* was eleven years old in 1789 is not the



meaning, because her father died in 1776, thirteen years before. But the meaning of the statement is that Annie was eleven at the time of her father's death and therefore she was born in 1765. This is confirmed by her tombstone at Canonsburg and positively identifies her as the same.

At Greensburg, Westmoreland Co., Pa, March 10, 1903, the writer found among a file of old miscellaneous papers, dust covered, faded and torn, in the archives of the Orphan's Court, the following appeal:

"To the Honourable Justices of the Orphans Court at Han-nastown, held for the county of Westmoreland, the petition of MARY SLOAN sheweth, that your petitioner, the unfortunate widow of DAVID SLOAN, lieutenant in Captain Irvin's company of riflemen; raised for the defence of the state, under the command of Colonel Miles, who fell in the battle of Long Island. And notwithstanding provision has been made for the widows and orphans of such officers that have fallen in the late glorious struggles for liberty, by the laws of the state; your petitioner has not yet received any compensation for her unspeakable loss and therefore prays your honourable court to take her distressed situation under your consideration and grant your petitioner such relief in the premises as you in your wisdom shall think proper and agreeable to the laws of this state and your petitioner is under duty bound and shall ever pray.

27 Aug. 1776

27 ditto 84

MARY SLOAN.

8

The signature of the petition is in a well-written, round and delicate hand with a little curl to the end and is indicative of facility with the pen and of confidence and culture.

The little sum at the bottom is a calculation as to the number of years from the decease to the time of the petition.

"On the petition of MARY SLOAN, widow and relict of DAVID SLOAN late Lieutenant in the first state regiment, setting forth that the said DAVID SLOAN was killed at the battle of Long Island the 27th day August 1776 in the service of the state of Pennsylvania and praying the court to draw an order on the treasurer of the County for her allowance agreeable to the Act of Assembly, for her maintenance and one child. The Court considered the petition of the said MARY SLOAN, and having satisfactory proof of the said DAVID SLOAN being a commissioned lieutenant



in the said service, as also of his death and marriage, do therefore order and direct William Perry, Treasurer of this County to pay to the said MARY SLOAN the sum of sixty pounds per annum commencing the 27th day of August 1776, and to continue in annual payments during her widowhood, agreeable to the act of Assembly in such case made and provided.

"At an Orphans Court held at Hannastown for the county of Westmoreland, the 8th day of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five, before Christopher Truhy, William Jack, Michael Hufnagle, Esquires, Justices of the same Court."

"Feb. 8th, 1785, Order in favor of MARY SLOAN widow and relict of DAVID SLOAN late lieutenant of the first state regiment for the half pay which the said lieutenant would have been entitled to from the 27th of August 1776, and to continue by annual payments during her widowhood."

Feb. 6th, 1788, cont. Married April 1st, 1788. Certificate given 2nd, Aug. 1788 to the time of her marriage."

In a History of Westmoreland Co., page 455, David Sloan is mentioned as a second lieutenant. Also on page 325, among early settlers of Mt. Pleasant township as indicated by a tax list dated 1783, appear as owners of land 'John Sloan, cordwinder,' and 'William Sloan, weaver.'

At the court house at Greensburg in deed book Vol. B, page 107, appears: "Nov. 7th, 1785, Mary Sloan, widow of David Sloan, Mt. Pleasant township, gentleman, to Ann Sloan, her daughter, in consideration of affection, a gift of £230. Signed Nov. 9th, 1785. Recorded Jan. 26th, 1786. This is almost one-half of the back pay from the pension that was granted. Evidently the good mother was contemplating the possibility of her own or her daughter's marriage and felt disposed to share the sum with her daughter. Her own marriage took place in 1788. To whom is unknown. The marriage of Annie to John Cowden took place in 1786, for her oldest child Mary, who became Mrs. Hugh Rogers, was born in 1787.

### A Famous Declaration.

A petition addressed to Governor Penn in 1774, for protection against Indian incursions was signed by the male inhabitants in several settlements in



Westmoreland County. In a rare old book, History of Western Pennsylvania by a gentleman of the Bar, 1851, Appendix, page 259, is the list of signers at Ft. Shippen or Capt. John Proctor's. It contains the names Samuel Sloan, William Sloan, **David Sloan** and Allen Sloan and other names to the number of 81. Among more than 200 names from other parts of the neighborhood threatened, the name Sloan is not found. A publication issued by the state in 1895 entitled Frontier Forts in Pennsylvania, Vol. 2, page 375, describes Ft. Shippen as in Unity township, three miles south of Latrobe. The Sloans who dwelt in Mt. Pleasant township would be within three or nine miles of this block house.

The first court of justice west of the mountains was held at Hannastown, in 1773, it then consisting of a hamlet of some thirty log cabins. On the 16th of May, 1775, a meeting was held there which passed resolutions remarkable for their patriotic declaration of the rights of freemen and making the name of Hannastown worthy of preservation in the annals of our nation so long as liberty and independence are loved. The place was almost totally destroyed by some three hundred Indians led by Guyasutha, a chief of the Seneca tribe of the Six Nations, accompanied by 60 white renegades on the 13th of July, 1782. Many of the inhabitants were slain and many carried into captivity. Hannastown was abandoned in a few years and now no trace remains.

The resolutions cannot be given at length, but this extract is cited because it is believed that young **David Sloan**, who the following year marched to war in the very spirit of the resolutions, must have been present that May day when they were so enthusiastically passed, just one month after the battle of Lexington.





**"Resolved** unanimously. That the Parliament of Great Britain by several late acts have declared the inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay to be in rebellion and the ministry, by endeavoring to enforce those acts, have attempted to reduce said inhabitants to a more wretched state of slavery than ever before existed in any state or country. Not content with violating their constitutional and chartered privileges, they would strip them of the rights of humanity, exposing their lives to the wanton and unpunishable sort of licentious soldiery and depriving them of the very means of subsistence.

**"Resolved** unanimously. That there is no reason to doubt but the same system of tyranny and oppression will (should it meet with success in Massachusetts) be extended to other parts of America. It is therefore become the indispensable duty of every American, of every man who has any public virtue or love for his country or any bowels for posterity, by every means which God has put in his power, to resist and oppose the execution of it; and that for us we will be ready to oppose it with our lives and fortunes. And the better to enable us to accomplish it we will immediately form ourselves into a military body, to consist of companies to be made up out of the several townships, under the following association which is declared to be the Association of Westmoreland County, Etc. Etc."

Note that the Mecklenburg Declaration was May 20th, or in new style Calendar May 31st, 1775.

The Indian hostilities which so disturbed and imperilled the Western border of the province from 1772 until the end of the war for independence, were in a large degree fomented by Lord Dunmore, of Virginia, who preposterously claimed that the Ft. Pitt district belonged to Virginia. His agents treated the settlers with a high hand and with lawless and exasperating annoyances. The British and Tories were not above using their influence to aggravate Indian jealousies and to keep up the Indian massacres. Thus the frontier was exposed to a more ferocious ravage than the seaports could apprehend from the armies of England.

In George Dallas Albert's History of Westmoreland County there are a number of references to pioneer Sloans. They seem to have been related. It is probable that the Sloans were early settlers in the vicinity of Bedford, (Franklin Co., Pa.) and that the stock may still be found there. There is considerable liklihood that Samuel Sloan, esquire, one of the justices appointed in 1773 at the formation of



the county of Westmoreland, was the father of Lt. David Sloan and also of Captain John Sloan, afterwards sheriff of the county. It also may have been the case that Robert Sloan and Samuel were brothers. The mother of Robert (Page 609), before the Armstrong expedition against Kittanning in 1755, was captured by Indians in the Conacocheague valley and taken to their village at Kittanning where she was kept two years and a half. One evening while with a party of red-skins as they travelled to a new hunting ground she overheard one tell another that a certain trail upon which they camped led to a white settlement. This was the first chance the captive had of making an escape. She travelled by night and hid herself during the day. After great hardships she at last reached Ft. Wyoming and eventually returned to her home.

For the chance of discovering something about the parents of David Sloan it might be well at some future time to look up the records of Cumberland and Bedford counties. At Greensburg the deed books contain land transactions as follows:

Vol. 29, Page 580, Aug. 1848, Mary Sloan to Wm. Baird.

Vol. 22, page 144, Nov. 1835, David Sloan.

Vol. 7, Page 397, Nov. 1803, David Sloan.  
(These are too late to concern our ancestor.)

Wills, Vol. A, page 62, 1791, Samuel Sloan.  
David Sloan. (Another.)

Wills. Vol. A., page 62, 1791, Samuel Sloan  
(Possibly father of David Sloan.)

Orphan's Court, Vol. 3, page 112, David Sloan,  
Pension.

### **The Battle of Long Island.**

A vivid description of the battle of Long Island, where fell the gallant young lieutenant **David Sloan**.



may be read in "Pennsylvania in the Revolution." Vol. 1, page 193 to 197.

The Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment was strictly for defense of the province. Nearly the whole of it was recruited in six weeks and then rendezvoused at Marcus Hook, April 6th, 1776. On July 2nd they were ordered to Philadelphia. On the 6th they marched to Trenton, N. J., thence to Amboy, joining the forces of Gen. Mercer on July 16th. On the 24th the Muster exhibited 867 men in the Rifle Regiment. Col. Miles went to New York on Aug. 16th with his forces where with others they were brigaded under Brig. Gen. Lord Stirling. After the evacuation of Boston the Americans occupied New York and defended the approaches to it. The defence of Long Island was entrusted to Gen. Greene, who constructed entrenchments near Brooklyn, erected a battery at Red Hook and a fort on Governor's Island. August 22nd Sir Henry Clinton landed 9000 British. Finding the passes guarded he awaited reinforcements. On account of the illness of Gen. Green the Americans were now under Gen. Sullivan. On the 24th Washington visited the lines and appointed Gen. Putnam to command. The battle was chiefly on the ground between the line of entrenchments and the south side of the Island. There are three roads crossing the wooded hills at this point. The central one through Flatbush. The British were reinforced on the 25th and made a feint to take the passes near the Narrows but ended by quietly setting out upon the Bedford road. This led to advance along the whole line which took place on the 27th. The Americans were not expecting this change of plan and were at a disadvantage but they fought well, resisting stubbornly. The command of Lord Stirling was forced to surrender as did also a considerable number under Gen. Sullivan. In this



brave, but unavailing resistance, the Rifle Regiment from Westmoreland participated and were able to elude the encircling forces of the British. Lieutenant Sloan was left among the slain on his first field of battle.

The British rested at evening and began planting batteries to sweep the Americans from the entrenchments, the next stroke, which they felt they could strike at their leisure. They hoped for aid in the assault from the fleet that was to try to pass the fort and enter the river. The ablest military strategist of his age now assumed command of the endangered American defences. Washington decided to retire from the Island, as Brooklyn seemed likely to be cut off. Hostilities were deferred by the overconfident British and on the night of Aug. 29th, the abandonment of the American position was effected. Alexander Hamilton with New York and Pennsylvania troops (among them the Rifle Regiment) guarding the movements and passing last. This masterly retreat had the moral effect almost of a victory. The American loss was small in killed, but about 1000 in prisoners taken.





## CHAPTER XXI

### The Ewings.

Some correspondence with Rev. John Ewing, D. D., then pastor of a Presbyterian congregation at Daretown, N. J., supplied considerable information about the Ewings. He being a grandson of **James Ewing** and somewhat interested in ancestral investigation. Age had rendered the penmanship of Dr. Ewing tremulous and obscure, but had not impaired his courtesy and kindness.

**Elizabeth Ewing** was the wife of **Mark Kelso**, and thus they were the grandparents of **Mary Cowden Welch**.

**Elizabeth** was born in 1777 and died September 2nd, 1819, and is buried in the Montour U. P. church yard near Oakdale, Pa. The account of her children has been given in connection with **Mark Kelso**.

She was the daughter of **James Ewing** and **Mary McCown** (according to the mystifying chi-rography of the good parson). **James Ewing** lived to be 92 years of age. He was born in Cecil Co., Maryland, and died in Allegheny Co., Pa. He and his wife are buried at the old Montour Presbyterian church, near Oakdale, Pa., where he was one of the first elders. The present minister writes that tombstones are there which state that **James Ewing** was an elder in Montour, died February 20th, 1825, in his 92nd year. Also **Mary**, his wife, died November 30th, 1825, aged 85 years. He was the first recorder for the Court of Allegheny Co., which was organized in 1788 from a part of Washington Co. and a part of Westmoreland Co. He was owner of one



thousand acres of land at Walkers Mills and in the suburbs of Carnegie, Pa. The Ewings owned slaves whom they freed about the year 1800 and gave to each a piece of land and log house. In 1780 Pennsylvania had passed an act for the gradual abolition of slavery. One of the slaves who was counted a pretty good hand in the harvest field was old Black Bill. He was very trustworthy and intelligent. Another was called Boastwain, who was likewise kindly regarded for his usefulness and reliability. Another was old Hagar, of whom an incident is related which reveals the easy going terms upon which servants and master lived. An Indian alarm was spread through the neighborhood, which was not an uncommon terror for the settlement during the time of harvests. The news reached them while they were pulling flax in the fields. Mr. Ewing with his family hastened to the fort, which was upon what is now the Allegheny Co. Poor Farm at Marshalsea Station. Old Hagar refused to go. She said she had been "Scart a way a plenty and was too stiff and old to be runnin' to the fort." Mr. Ewing assured her "the red devils would be certain to get her because she was so stubborn." When the alarm had subsided and they had returned, Old Hagar was found safe and sound, having hidden all day and night in the thicket.

These Indian raids were perils of a stern reality in the first decade or two after the country was occupied. The Shawnees and other tribes roved through the region in bands of half a dozen or a score and wherever a settler's cabin was encountered it was likely to be left in smouldering embers and the scalped bodies of its occupants where the bloody tomahawk or fatal bullet slew them.

About the year 1780 a daughter of **James Ewing** named Annie, who had married a man named Walk-



er, was captured on Robinson Run. My uncles relate that they have heard their mother tell how the Indians had scalped her aunt and killed her, but Rev. Ewing, of Daretown, probably with more correctness, states that Mrs. Walker effected her escape.

**James Ewing's** wife lived to be 85. (If her name was McComb she was probably the daughter of William McComb, a Presbyterian elder and first coroner of Washington Co. in 1781.) They had five sons and four daughters. Of these only four are known, and these but by name; William, Esther, Annie, who wed Walker of Walkers Mills, and Elizabeth, who wed Mark Kelso.

**James Ewing** is regarded as one of the sons of **John Ewing**, who, with a large family, moved into western Pennsylvania from Cecil Co., Maryland.

Four brothers, John, Alexander, Henry and Samuel, came with their father, **Nathaniel Ewing**, to Cecil Co., Md., in 1695. They left younger brothers behind them in Ireland. Thomas Ewing, who afterwards came to Pennsylvania, is thought to have been one of these, and he is said to have had two brothers who came to Long Island in 1718 from Ireland, and shortly afterward moved southward. Thomas Ewing was the father of Dr. Thomas Ewing, who wed a Marshall and was the father of Thomas Bedford Ewing, an eminent judge in Ohio at an early date.

There are a great many Ewing families in western Pennsylvania not aware of any inter-relationship who may be descendants of the large family which John Ewing is said to have reared in the pioneer wilds.

Alexander Ewing settled in East Nottingham township, Cecil Co., Md. and had children, William, George, Alexander and twins James and John.



This John became Rev. Dr. John Ewing, the first Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and one of the Pennsylvania committee to run the Mason and Dixon line to its western terminus for the adjustment of the claims of Virginia to the Pittsburgh region. He was a Doctor of Divinity and a Doctor of Laws.

Henry Ewing settled near to his brother in East Nottingham township, Cecil Co., Md. Of his family, John, Moses and James are known only by name. The latter lived to be 94 and resided with a daughter who is said to have been his only child.

Samuel Ewing, the remaining one of the four brothers, settled in West Nottingham township and was married to Rebecca George. Three of his children are named William, Samuel and Amos, who was born in 1754 and died in 1814, aged 70, leaving at least two children, Amos and Elizabeth. William and Samuel moved to Washington Co., Pa., about 1780, where their cousin **James Ewing** owned much land.

It does not seem that **James Ewing** was in the revolutionary army, but it does appear that before the war took place he joined a militia company and received a commission as lieutenant from Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, probably about 1770, when the claims of Virginia were most stongly asserted over the region at the head of the Ohio River.

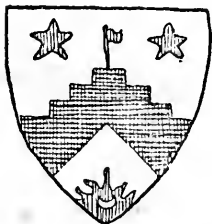
There was a noted character in Virginia and Kentucky named Finis Ewing, who became a powerful preacher and one of the founders of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. It might be possible that he was the termination of the large family that **John Ewing** is said to have planted on the Western Border.

Our final word on the Ewing topic, however,





is to speak of **Finlay Ewing**, the father of **Nathaniel**. His wife's name was **Jane** and they were Scotch Presbyterians of Londonderry, Ireland. He fought bravely in the Battle of the Boyne for the establishment of Protestantism in 1690. He acquitted himself with valor and credit in some position of lesser command and was given a silver hilted sword by King William of Orange. This heirloom passed to his grandson, Dr. Thomas Ewing, from whom it was stolen after his arrival in America by a colored servant and was melted for the silver in the hilt before the slave was discovered to have been the thief.



Uncertainty generally attaches to the coats of arms which Americans attribute to their ancestors. A Scotch Ewing is illustrated by the cut. It is said to be the same as Ewen and thus hints at an ancient derivation of the stock from Wales or Strath Clyde. It is emblazoned "Argent; a chevron embattled azure, ensigned with a flag gules; cantoned of the field between two mullets in chief; and a sun in base of the third purple; Crest demi-lion holding mullet gules; motto Audaciter." Ewing of Ireland at a later period is defined as "Quarterly gules and or; second and third charged with saltire of the first. Crest the moon in her complement purple."



## CHAPTER XXII.

### Unrelated Cowden, Doubtless Sprung from the Same Scotch-Irish Stock.

The name Cowden is Anglo-Saxon. An out of print history of Norfolk Shire, England, names ancient land transactions in which Thomas and Nathaniel Cowden figure. In a letter written by Charles Waring Bardsley, author of *English Surnames*, these are mentioned as the earliest allusions to the family.

The name has been known in Scotland for centuries, both as a family name and as a place name. Near Abbotsford, the home of Sir Walter Scott, are the "Cowden Knowes" peeping above the grey hills of the Tweed and greatly beloved by the poet. He also alludes to the Cowden Peel in the same vicinity. A peel or battle-house was the stronghold of a chief or head of a branch of a clan. It was a square three-storied tower, a store-house and refuge. From the summit a beacon fire gave the alarm of invasion, and within its walls the last defense was made.

Knowes were small hills covered with forests and pasturage.

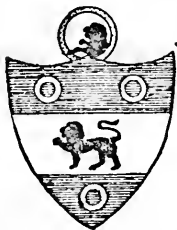
Washington Irving, in describing his visit to Scott, speaks of the Huntley Wood, the Eildon Hills, the Tweed, and says: "What a thrill of pleasure did I feel when I first saw the broom-covered tops of the Cowden Knowes."

Sir Walter quoted a ballad from the last of the *Wandering Border Minstrels*, "Sing Ercildoune and Cowdenknowes." In the third canto of Scott's poem, "Thomas the Rhymer," Colding Knowe is associated with the same locality of the upper Tweed, and is doubtless the same as Cowden Knowe.



The Minstrel Thomas is supposed to have been alive in 1300.

A rare old book in a Philadelphia library held the statement that "One, Thomas MacCowden, removed from Scotland to Ireland and dropped the prefix Mac. From him descended all the American Cowdens, sprung from North Ireland stock." This migration is undated, but may have been near 1600. Perhaps the place of their settlement was in Donegal County, Ulster, on or near the Cunningham Manor, on the road from Londonderry to Letteskenney. It is said that they were wealthy in lands. A large bulding used as a storehouse bore the name the Cowden House.



The coat of arms given for the Pennsylvania Cowdens is identical with that in the line of James Cowden I, and as belonging to the ancient Scotch Cowdens of an origin prior to the Sixteenth Century.

### James Cowden I

was born in North Ireland in 1695, and was probably son of Thomas Cowden. He may have been grandson of Thomas MacCowden, who removed from Scotland to Ireland.

The Scotch and Irish seldom intermarried, for under King James I the confiscating of the large estates of the Irish "great-folk" and giving them to the Scotch, caused a bitter and never ending feud.

James Cowden braved the opposition and wed an Irish lady from an ancient and noted family, Connor. He married Lady Polly Connor and had one son David. She shortly died and early in 1720 he married Janet Craig, of unmixed Scotch blood.



The Craigs removed to Ireland from Scotland and lived near the Cowdens.

James Cowden came to America in 1728. Mr. Cowden, of Gallipolis, Ohio, still has the "double-case, bull's-eye silver watch" that marked the hours of the long voyage from shore to shore. James Cowden went to North Worcester, Mass., and in 1731 bought land and founded a home there. In 1740 North Worcester was incorporated as a separate town and called Holden.

Mr. Cowden died and was buried there in 1748. "He left real and personal estate of value."

The children of James Cowden were, 1st, David, son of James Cowden and Polly (Connor) Cowden; 2nd, Thomas, born Dec. 25, 1720, son of James Cowden and Janet (Craig) Cowden; 3rd, William; 4th, Margaret; 5th, Samuel, born in 1726. All born in Ireland, and probably also Elizabeth. 7th, Robert, born in 1731; 8th, John, born in 1734; 9th, James, born in 1737; all in North Worcester, Mass.

David, Thomas and William rose to the rank of captain in the Revolutionary Army. David was at the Battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775. David and James settled in Cambridge, N. J. John went to Canada. Robert was a prominent citizen of Princeton, Mass. William and Samuel lived in Worcester and Rutland, Mass.

### **Thomas Cowden.**

The eldest son of James Cowden and Janet Craig Cowden, was eight years of age when his father came to America. Tradition in one line says father was a young barrister in his own country.

Thomas Cowden was well versed in law, but was not a lawyer. He learned the trade of blacksmith, which then included the making of farming implements and various edged tools.





He was fond of military tactics and belonged to a company of cavalry in Worcester. In 1745 he responded to the call of the Governor, and as Sergeant, joined the brave little army that marched to Louisburg. None started with more buoyant hope, nor returned to build a brighter fire than Sergeant Thomas Cowden, of Worcester.

The historian says: "He was in the thickest of the fight, distinguishing himself by that dash of movement that characterized him when occasion demanded."

Prior to the French and Indian War, when trouble arose with the Indians upon the frontier, Sergeant Cowden was ready for service.

In 1755 he was in the expedition against Nova Scotia, and he continued in service till the close of the French and Indian War.

Tales of hair-breadth escapes from the Indians, of bearing dispatches, arresting deserters, and other experiences of army life are still preserved. Brave as a lion in war, he rose to the rank of captain and his spirit was admirably typified by his Cowden coat of arms.

In the War of the Revolution he responded to the call of Gen. Stark in 1777; in 1778 he enlisted for eight months' service in the State of New York. Again in 1779 for three months. He was probably in the engagement with Burgoyne Oct. 17, 1779.

In 1779 Thomas Cowden became a member of the "Ancient Masons" at "Liberty Lodge," Lancaster, Mass. The members in this Lodge were liberally recruited from men in the military service on the Colonial side. Its officers took their degrees from St. Andrew's Lodge, having headquarters at the "Green Dragon," in Boston, and included such men as Warren, Revere and Hancock.

Thomas Cowden, of Worcester, Mass., married



Experience Gray, of Worcester, Mass., Nov. 29, 1728.  
Their children were:

1. Thomas, born March 7, 1754, in Worcester. Married Mary Farrington, of Andover, Mass., Aug. 24, 1774.

2. Experience, born Jan. 10, 1757, in Worcester. Married Thaddeus McCarby, M. D., of Worcester, Jan. 16, 1774.

Experience (Gray) Cowden died April 3, 1760.

Thomas Cowden I, of Worcester, married Hannah Craig, of Rutland, Mass., Oct. 2, 1761. Their children were:

1. Hannah, born June 23, 1763, in Worcester, Mass. Married, 1st, Emanuel Locke, M. D., Dec. 30, 1782; he died Aug. 31, 1788. 2nd, John Savage, Princeton, Mass., Jan. 27, 1789. 3d, Philip Wood, Andover, Mass.

2. Joseph, born July 5, 1765, in Worcester. Married Mary Fox, of Fitchburg, Mass., Dec. 12, 1791. He died July 26, 1794.

3. Singer, born July 13, 1767, in Fitchburg. Married: 1st, Sarah Farwell, of Fitchburg, May 31, 1789. 2nd, Abiah Carter, of Fitchburg. He died in Jamaica, Vt., Feb. 25, 1799.

4. Daniel, born Oct. 30, 1769, in Fitchburg. Married Zebiah Davis, Boston, Mass. He was lost at sea, returning from the West Indies, Jan. 26, 1800.

5. James, born March 30, 1772, in Fitchburg. Married Lydia Perry, of Fitchburg, May 7, 1797. He died October, 1853.

6. Robert, born March 31, 1775, in Fitchburg, unmarried. Died at sea in returning from the East Indies, Nov. 11, 1803.

7. William, born Aug. 13, 1778, in Fitchburg, unmarried. Died in Fitchburg, Jan. 16, 1800.

8. Samuel, born April 7, 1780, in Fitchburg.



Married Betsey Goodridge, of Fitchburg, Nov. 8, 1805. He died Jan. 7, 1820.

9. Polly Connor, born July 17, 1783, in Fitchburg. Married Jacob Upton, of Fitchburg, Jan. 20, 1802.

The children of Esq. Thomas Cowden formed alliances with some of the most cultured and prominent families in New England. Mr. Cowden removed from Worcester, Mass., to Fitchburg, Mass., in 1765.

History says "He was the most prominent founder of Fitchburg," and "his word was law." He was keenly alive to the interests of the town, the schools, the militia, and the church. He held all the town offices, at different times, and was chosen Representative to the first General Court under the Constitution, in 1780.

He was widely known as Magistrate, and trial-Justice.

He became one of the wealthiest men of his time.

He was trusted as

"That tower of strength  
That stands four-square  
To all the winds that blow."

A granite shaft marks his resting-place on the summit of Laurel Hill Cemetery, Fitchburg, Mass.

His descendants have proved worthy of their honored ancestors, in social, military, business and professional lines of life.

Gen. Robert Cowden, of Boston, conspicuous for valor in the Civil War, who died in July, 1874, was of this line.

A correspondent who supplies much interesting information of these New England Cowdens and who secured some notes from Capt. J. C. M. Upton, of Boston, Mass., concerning them is:

Miss Ada L. Howard, of Brooklyn, N. Y., whose



skillful hand guided Wellesly College through the first seven and most difficult years of its existence, the daughter of Wm. Hawkins Howard and Lydia Adeline Cowden, (daughter of James Cowden), and was born Dec. 19th, 1829. Three of her great grand-fathers were officers in the Revolution. One of them being Capt. Thomas Cowden, of Fitchburg. She received her education in a home of great refinement and in the schools of New-Ipswich and Lowell, Mass., and was graduated from Mt. Holyoke College, in which institution she was a teacher, also at Oxford, Ohio. She was principal of Knox College, Ill., and of Ivy Hall, a private school for women, at Bridgeton, N. J., whence she was called by Mr. and Mrs. Durant, founders of Wellesly, to assume the responsible duties of being the first woman president of a college in the world. Her high culture and efficiency won for her the love and admiration of a host of alumnae and of the entire educational world. Her beneficent and successful career has contributed an unmeasured influence of womanly character and strength to the cause of the higher education of woman in our country.

There is another line from James Cowden, born in Ireland who, in 1695, wed Lady Polly Connor, and second, in 1720, wed Janet Craig. He came to New England in 1728. David was the first wife's son. He was a Revolutionary captain and settled at Cambridge, N. Y., during the war.

James Cowden, brother of Hon. Thomas Cowden, of Fitchburg, Mass., was the second wife's child and was born in North Worcester, Mass, in 1757. He was the youngest son and settled in Cambridge, N. Y. He first wed Olive Wilson, of Peterham, Mass. Their children were David, Simpson, Jeremiah and Samuel. James Cowden married as his second wife, 'the widow Strong.' He was a





soldier in the Revolution. David, his oldest son, was born at Cambridge July 10th, 1767, and wed Roxanna Woodworth March 20th, 1787, and died Dec. 23rd, 1818. In his family were 8 children: 1. Betsy, b. Jan. 25th, 1788; 2, James D., b. July 27th, 1790; 3, William, b. July 2nd, 1792; 4, Truman, b. Apr. 22nd, 1794. He was a Methodist minister and for 49 years he was in the Cincinnati conference. He died, leaving three unmarried daughters. 5. Polly, b. Feb. 7th, 1796; 6, Joseph A., b. July 21st, 1798; 7, Simpson, b. June 12th, 1800; 8, Roxanna, b. Feb. 12th, 1803. The second wife of David Cowden was Lydia Stanton. She had one son Ira, b. Aug. 7th, 1810.

James D. Cowden, above, resided at Gallipolis, Ohio. He had blue eyes and dark hair and was a local preacher in the Methodist Church. His wife was Diantha Cole, a tall and slender person, born July 18th, 1795. Their children were David C., b. Feb. 8th, 1819, and died Sep. 26th, 1893. Truman S.; Caroline; Emmaline; Olive, and Charity; all now passed away. David C. Cowden, oldest son of above, dwelt at Gallipolis, O. He was 5 ft., 10 in. tall with black hair and blue eyes, was born Feb. 8th, 1819, in Catarangus Co., N. Y., and died Sept. 26th, 1893. His wife was Eliza J. Blazer, dark with grey eyes, b. Oct 17th, 1821, living in 1898. Their children were James W., b. Aug. 24th, 1844; Simpson D., b. Sept. 2nd, 1847; Jasper C., who died Apr. 9th, 1891, and Emma J., who is living. Mr. Simpson D. Cowden is Vice President of the Ohio Valley Bank, at Gallipolis, O., and to him is due the foregoing record. He, his wife, and their son, are Methodists. His wife was Alice A. Gardner. The son, Lewis C., b. Sept. 7th, 1873, is a graduated dentist in Gallipolis. Mr. Cowden served two terms as Probate Judge of Gallia Co., O.



James W. Cowden, brother of above, with his wife and three sons, also resides in Gallipolis. Dark hair and blue eyes seem characteristic of this line in later years.

At Laona, N. Y., in the beautiful grape growing districts of Chatauqua Co., are other Cowdens with whom relationship is not established. Robert Cowden, medium height and light complexion, born March 19th, 1785.; Aug 25th. 1864, met death by accident. His wife was Anna Wilson, tall and dark, died June 9th, 1876. There were 7 children; Ella; Susan; Maltilda; William; Marcus; Sarah Ann and Levi; all born between 1808 and 1822. Levi was born in Arkwright, N. Y., July 6th, 1822, and died July 2nd, 1883, of Bright's disease; was tall and dark. His wife was Azuba Jones, b. Nov. 30th, 1824. Their children, David H., Alice M., Andrew J., Levi Edward, and Nettie B. The first named son, David H., resides at Fredonia, N. Y. Is like most of this group, tall and dark. He was born Oct 26th, 1846, at Arkwright, N. Y., wed Ida M. Litch and their two sons are Levi D., born Jan 26th, 1880, and Row W., b. June 27th, 1883.

Col. Robert Cowden, of Dayton, O., is descended from a family that came to America from Ireland, but is believed to have originally been Scotch. His great grandsire, Robert, when five years of age, came with his parents to America. He had sons, Robert; John; David, who was killed by Indians in Kentucky, and James, who went away and was never heard of; and Catharine, who wed Mr. Gilliland, brother of James Gilliland, who married Mary J Hamsher. John was the father of that Robert Cowden who lived and died near Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The son, Robert, named above, was born April 3rd, 1767, probably in Chester Co., Pa. At the age of



nineteen he made a runaway marriage with Catharine Stillwagon. Their children were John, Jane, Jinnet McChesney, Catharine, Robert, David, Hannah, James, William, Margaret, and Samuel, eleven. His wife died Dec. 19th, 1818, aged 53. He remarried but had no further children. He made four trips as trader down the Mississippi in flatboats. He settled in Jefferson Co., O. Died May 26th, 1845. David Cowden, (6th above) b. March 5th, 1797, Chester Co., Pa., reared on farm; learned cooper trade; taught school in Richland Co., O.; wed Elizabeth Ketch, in 1832, who was 18 while he was 30 years old. To them were born Robert, Margaret Ann, Elizabeth and David. The last two died in infancy. He had brown hair, blue eyes, a kindly face and was 5 ft., 7 in. tall.

The oldest son Robert, b. May 24th, 1833, near Leesville Cross Roads, O. Worked hard; taught school; enlisted Sept. 9th, 1861, in Co. B., 56th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Jan 28th, 1862, now a lieutenant, he entered Battery I, First Ill. Light Artillery as private. Received lieutenancy again for valor at Shiloh. Became Major of the 59th U. S. colored infantry and May 1st attained rank of Lt. Col. Mustered out Jan. 31st, 1866. For years has been General Secretary of the Sabbath School Board of the United Brethren Church and has been active as organizer and missionary. Col. Cowden first married, in 1854, Lydia T. Miller, which union was blessed with four children. Daniel Webster, a wholesale merchant, of Salina, Kan.; John C. Milton, a farmer, of Cheyenne Co., Kan.; Jacob K. R., a farmer, of Eagle Co., Col.; and Mrs. Zoe E. M. Chipperfield, whose husband is a farmer of Cheyenne Co., Col. In 1891 Col. Cowden wed Mrs. Joanna McGinnis, of Wichita, Kan.



In the course of inquiry several names were encountered, but without obtaining any particulars of relationship or otherwise.

James Cowden, of Dunmore, Ireland.

Robert Cowden, of Harbor Creek, Pa.

Joseph Cowden, of Delphos, O.

Capt. John Cowden, of Memphis, Tenn.

Wm. N. Cowden, of Quaker City, O.

Rev. J. Cowden, of Denver Col.

Miss Irene Cowden, Parkersburg, W. Va.

The Chaplain of the House of Representatives in McKinley's administration, was named Cowden.





ANCESTRY AND KIN  
of the  
WELCH FAMILY.



CHAPTER I.

When we were boys we were not very bad nor yet very good.

Cannonsburg Pa., was then a quiet, clean old town. The grass grew on the streets and we had to gouge it out from between the bricks with table forks. Boys could earn fifty cents a month driving cows to pasture. We flew our kites and found apples where now are streets and houses. We went fishing, swimming and skating where various mills are now located. We lived on Sheep Hill, otherwise Pitt Street, at the head of Greenside Avenue, and were known as Mrs. Welch's little boys.



Rob, John, and Jim. Those were indeed the good times. We had and really enjoyed the excellent school privileges of the moral and cultured, although complacent, old village, and we had also the range of miles of thrifty farmland and of woods, stream and thicket. If in those days there were 'No Trespassing' notices, we threw stones at them or simply kept more careful watch when on our semi-savage expeditions for nuts, berries or health, for the appearance of a dog heralding the oncoming of 'Old Doughbelly' or of 'Old Mammy T.'

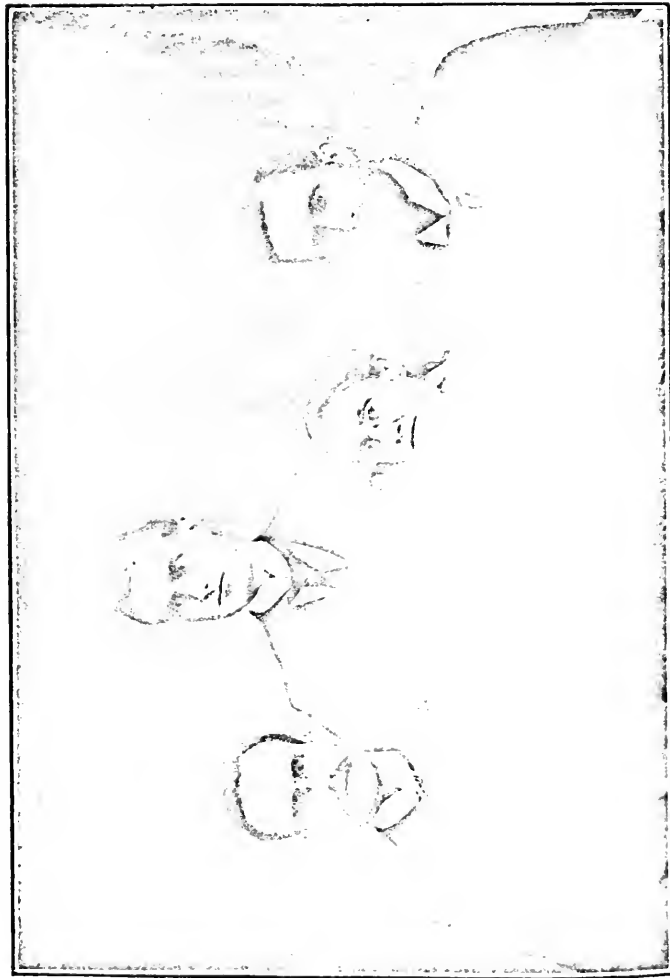
Our cousins, the Fee boys, our neighbors, the Archers, and the boys of our street were sufficient to always make just enough for playing ball or anything else that was fun. Our mother kept us out of trouble and, if we perhaps caused her some worry, we at least furnished her with some amusement, and her interest in her boys and their plans and pleasures and their progress never flagged.

### Section 1.

There were but three children born to Rev. Robert C. Welch and his wife, Mary Cowden Welch, and they were all sons.

The oldest was Robert Lincoln Welch, born Oct. 16th, 1865, at Cannonsburg, Pa. He was graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in the class of 1887 with honors, and from the United Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Allegheny, Pa., in 1890. On March 27th, 1890, he was married to Annie Eleanor Weir, at Washington, Pa. They have three little girls in their home: Eleanor Weir Welch, born June 23rd, 1891, at Summerset, Iowa; Mary Eloise Welch, born May 2nd, 1896, at Oneonta, N. Y., and Elizabeth Cowden Welch, born in 1902 at Redlands, Cal. He has been pastor of United Presbyterian Churches at Summerset, Iowa; One-





Rev. J. I. Welch    Rev. J. W. Welch    Mary C. Welch    Dr. John C. Welch



onta, N. Y.; and Fresno, Cal.; and now at Redlands, Cal.

His wife was the daughter of Rev. William Weir, who was born Oct. 23rd, 1839, in Allegheny Co., Pa., and graduated from Westminster College, at New Wilmington, Pa., in 1862; studied theology at Allegheny and was ordained in 1866; was pastor of East Union, of Canonsburg, and of Martin's Ferry, O.; has been General Secretary of the National Reform Association; now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He was married to Elizabeth King, and their children are three: Annie, wed Rev. R. L. Welch; Joseph King Weir, an attorney at Washington, Pa., and Mary M., of Philadelphia. The father of Rev. William Weir was Rev. Samuel Weir, 1778-1850; born in Coleraine, Ireland; received by the Associate Reformed Presbytery, of Monongahela about 1820; pastor 24 years over Mifflin, Allegheny Co., Pa. His wife was Eleanor Calhoun, the daughter of a farmer who resided near Pittsburg, David Calhoun, and of Eleanor King, his wife. The mother of Mrs. R. L. Welch was Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac King and of Mary Higbee King, his wife. Relationship between these and the wife of David Calhoun is unknown, but at any rate my nieces are of a kingly race, as well as having four ministers as their immediate ancestors.

## Section 2.

My brother, John Cowden Welch, was born at Taylorstown, Pa., Aug. 10th, 1867. He graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in the class of 1889, having been one year out of college, during which he taught school in Cherokee Co., Iowa. After his graduation he spent, with his mother, a year in Pasadena, California. He then entered the Medical Department of the University of Penna. Hav-





ing obtained association with the late Dr. Wm. Stewart as his preceptor, who was then Dean of the Medico-Chirurgical College, my brother entered that institution and graduated with honors in 1893. He successfully passed applicant's examinations for resident physician in the Medico-Chi. Hospital, the Methodist Episcopal Hospital and the Philadelphia City Hospital or Blockly Almshouse. He chose the latter as affording the best training on account of its very much larger capacity, and remained on active duty as physician and surgeon for 15 months. In 1895 he established himself in practice on Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue, Pa. He has been connected with St. John's General Hospital, of Allegheny, as one of the organizers and attendant physicians.

On May 9th, 1900, he was united in marriage to Miss Pauline Herzog. The ceremony was performed in Indiana, Pa., by Rev. J. M. Welch. They have two children, Robert Conrad Welch and John, born Feb. 15th, 1904.

My brother's wife, Pauline Barbara Herzog, was born March 9th, 1870, at Posinsko, near Koenigsburg, Prussia. After having been a governess in Russia, teaching German and French, she came to Pennsylvania in 1890 and graduated as a trained nurse from the Allegheny General Hospital. Her father, Fritz Franz Herzog, was born May 2nd, 1842, at Hohenbruch, Darbemen; which is near Goldap, Prussia. He was married Feb. 9th, 1857, to Elise Helene Valeska Gebharde, who was born May 19th, 1843, at Ruthkowitz in Lyck, East Prussia. With their children, Johan Conrad, Pauline, Elise, and Margarethe, they came to America in 1890, settled first at Youngstown, Ohio, and afterwards removing to the vicinity of Pittsburg where a farm was purchased.

Mrs. Welch's father's mother was named Eme-





John and Robert Welch.



James Welch.



lie Bremer and her mother's parents were Rudolph Gebharde, a lawyer, and Julia von Hengel, who was born and reared on an estate near Tilsit, East Prussia. This town is famous as the place where the peace of 1807 was concluded between Napoleon. Alexander of Russia and Wilhelm III of Prussia.

### Section 3.

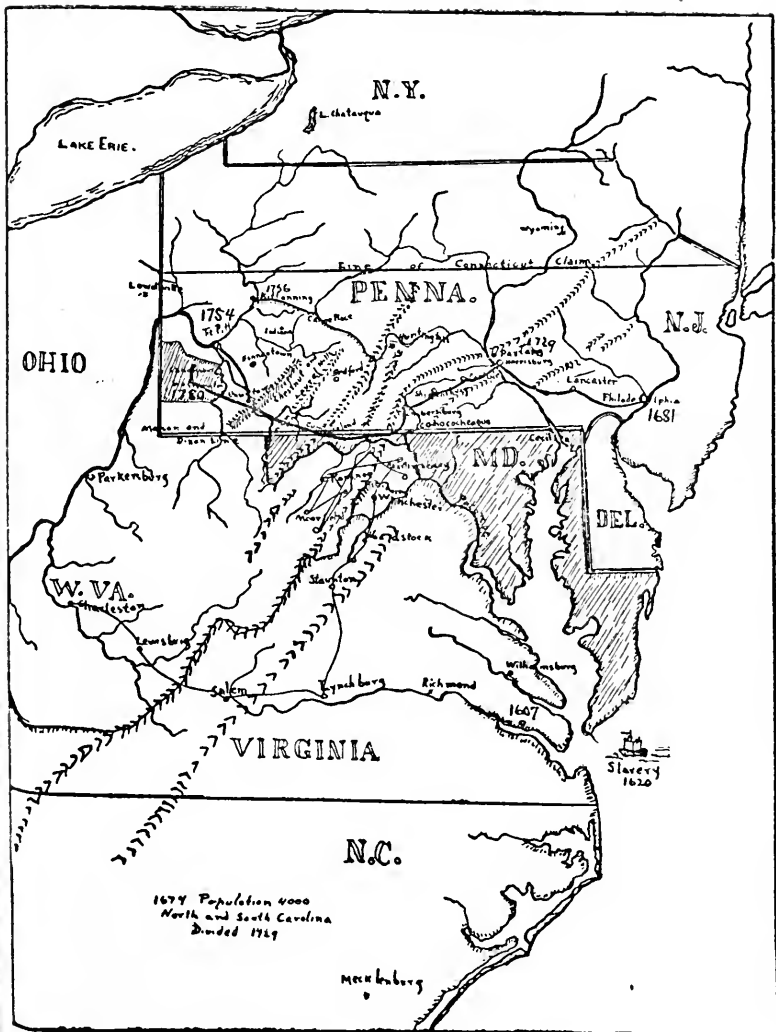
The youngest son of Rev. Robert C. Welch and Mary Cowden Welch was born July 4th, 1869, at Cannonsburg, in Washington county, Pa., and was named James Marcus Welch. He was graduated from Washington & Jefferson college in 1888 and from the United Presbyterian Theological seminary at Allegheny, Pa., in 1891. Since January 1st, 1898, he has been pastor of the Second United Presbyterian church of Indiana, Pa. On June 2d, 1899, he was married to Miss Martha G. McLaughlin, youngest daughter of the late William and Martha Gwynn McLaughlin, of Philadelphia, Pa.

### A Colonial Map.

In introducing a historical map it is regretted that the location of the many old forts and Indian trails cannot be given. It is likewise impossible to give the outlines of counties at the different periods when their borders changed.

The main purpose of the map is to locate the natural route of pioneer immigration to Washington county just after the Revolution. It may be seen at first glance that the colony of Virginia, with her capital at Williamsburg, on the James river, would have





Colonial Map.





difficulty in controlling a frontier on the Ohio with speed and intelligence.

Considering the extreme difficulty of surmounting the natural barriers to western progress which the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains and their hilly bulwarks interposed it will appear that the Potomac river through the gateway at Harper's Ferry and on to Fort Cumberland, one of the earliest outposts of civilization, established 1754, would prove the safest, quickest and cheapest route for Virginia settlers. The same course was most popular with the Pennsylvania pioneer. From Harrisburg, down the picturesque Cumberland valley through Carlisle, Shippensburg and Chambersburg, then well fortified little outposts, Fort Cumberland was most easily reached.

This was the route of Braddock's ill-fated expedition. From Fort Cumberland he marched to the Youghiogheny at Confluence and thence to Uniontown and along the river to the place of his disastrous defeat July 9th, 1755. This path, over which an army had marched in splendor and been driven back in panic and route, though long unused, remained an open trail. From Uniontown it was easy to strike westward to Brownsville or old Redstone Fort and there crossing the Monongahela enter the fertile borders of Washington county.

For ages the Indians, in passing back and forth across the state of Pennsylvania to attend the council fires of the dominant tribes in the east or to assent to treaties with the Penns, had followed what was known as the Kittanning Path. This was from their towns on the Allegheny to Huntington, or Standing



Stone, on the Juniata river. This path was taken by Col. John Armstrong, when, in 1756, he attacked and burned the Indian town of Kittanning as a reprisal for Indian atrocities that had become so numerous and terrible since the French victory over Braddock.

The map also shows the campaign in the Civil War of 1864 of Lieutenant Welch, which is explained on page 161.

Early estimates of population in the colony of Pennsylvania are indefinite. In 1730 there were 10,000; in 1750 there were 21,000; in 1770 there were 39,665; in 1780 there were 128,293; in 1790 there were 474,000. The vote for governor in 1790 was 30,000.

Washington county, mentioned in this book as the home of several generations of ancestors, is situated in southwestern Pennsylvania and is one of the richest districts of the state, both agriculturally and with respect to manufactures and mineral resources. A great tract in it was chosen by Washington and granted by Governor Dinwiddie, of the colony of Virginia, as a reward for his mission to the French at Fort Duquesne in 1753. Until the acceptance of the Mason & Dixon line in 1783 the land south of the Ohio and west of the Youghiogheny rivers had both a Pennsylvania and a Virginia history. As Virginia territory it was termed Ohio county from 1778 until its release. In 1776 it was included in West Augusta county and in Youghiogheny county. Prior to that, from 1738, it was a wild, unknown portion of Frederick and Augusta county, which, in 1734, had been separated from Orange county as that portion west of



the mountains. Orange county itself had been formed from the original Spottsylvania county of Virginia in 1721.

Similarly in Pennsylvania records Washington county was formed March 28th, 1781, from Westmoreland county, that then being the entire western end of the state. Westmoreland, in 1773, was cut off from Bedford county. Bedford, in 1771, was taken from Cumberland, which, in 1750, was formed from Lancaster, and Lancaster, in 1729, from Chester county, one of the six original divisions of Penn's charter of 1682.

In 1764 Governor John Penn proclaimed the following rewards: "For every male Indian above ten years captured, \$150, or for his scalp, being killed, \$134. For every female or male under ten years captured, \$130, or for the scalp of such female killed, \$50."—History of Pittsburg, by Neville B. Craig, 1851, page 97.

In February, 1768, an act was passed inflicting death without benefit of clergy upon any person settling upon lands not purchased from the Indians, who shall refuse, after ( ) days' notice, to quit the same or, having removed, shall return to the same or other unpurchased lands, etc., etc.—Page 99, same book.

"A large portion of the lands along Chartiers creek is thus held by entries made between 1769 and 1779 \* \* \* by titles based upon Virginia entries, which, by the compromise of 1779, are recognized as equally as good as a Pennsylvania warrant.—Page 103 same book.

"Pittsburg is inhabited almost entirely by Scots and Irish, who live in paltry log houses and are as dirty as in the north of Ireland or even Scotland. There are in the town four attorneys, two doctors and not a priest of any persuasion, nor church nor chapel, so that they are likely to be damned without benefit of clergy. The place, I believe, will never be very



considerable."—Rev. Arthur Lee, Episcopal rector, December, 1784, page 186, same book.

## CHAPTER II.

### A Soldier for His Country and for the Cross.

My father, **Robert Caldwell Welch**, was born August 19th, 1838, on the farm known as Locust Hill, being that part of the original homestead in Washington county, Pa., which his grandfather had given to his father.

He died December 22d, 1868, aged 30 years, 4 months and 3 days. His grave is in the cemetery at Washington, Pa. On November 10th, 1864, he married Mary Cowden, of whom and of her three sons an account has been given on previous pages. **Robert C. Welch** was graduated from Jefferson college, at Cannonsburg, Pa., in 1860, ranking fifth among 60, the first honor being divided among four. Most of his expenses were paid by teaching school or working upon the farm of his older brother, James. His diary of those years reveals a strict economy, a conscientious application to study and to duty, also literary and social aspirations, such as only a man of talent and character could cherish. He entered the Theological Seminary of the United Presbyterian Church, at Allegheny, traveling by stage upon the various occasions necessary. After one year's study he enlisted in Captain George T. Work's cavalry company, called the Winfield Hussars, which was recruited in his home neighborhood, and on the 6th of September, 1862, he was elected second lieutenant of the company. The Winfield Hussars were attached to the 22d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, the Ringold Battalion, as Company C. The term of service at their enlistment was three years or the war. March 3, 1865, **Robert C. Welch** was elected first lieutenant and on May 18th,







Lieutenant and Mrs. Welch.



1865, at the close of the Civil War, he was honorably discharged.

He resumed his interrupted theological studies. In view of the frequent chaplain services in which he had experience, and inasmuch as he had made up many of his studies, one year of further preparation was regarded, by the members of his presbytery, as sufficient to qualify him for the ministry. He was ordained upon the 14th of May, 1867, by Chartiers Presbytery and was settled as pastor over the congregation of North Buffalo, Washington County, Pa., under the care of the same presbytery. He resided at Taylorstown, a distance of three miles from this church.

In December of 1868 he was entertained at dinner by Wm. Hodgins, one of his esteemed members. While there a young man came, requesting him to go with him to perform a wedding ceremony. Although feeling somewhat unwell at the time he complied with the request and thereby suffered exposure which brought on a cold. Being physically weakened by his recent army life, the attack developed quickly into pneumonia, from which he was unable to rally, and he died after two weeks sickness.

In appearance he was tall and slender and very straight, of a fair complexion and with golden red hair, and gray eyes. His height was six feet two inches. As a minister he was much beloved by his congregation and esteemed by his presbyterial brethren. It is a pleasure to have persons who had known him in the enthusiasm of his early work speak after the lapse of thirty years, of his consecration and ability. From some of his discourses it is fair to mention his style as earnest and persuasive, adorned with poetic



imagination and enforced by both piety and purpose.

From Mrs. Jane Harsha, his sister, the following incidents of his boyhood were learned: "When he was eight years of age he went upon an errand to McConnel's Mills, a village two miles distant. He was attacked by a dog, but, by climbing upon a fence, he escaped injury, although he was much terrified and as a result of this he was for some months thereafter, nervously affected with something like St. Vitus' Dance. He outgrew all this and was soon going to school with the rest of the children." \* \* \*

"He was a quick-tempered little lad, perhaps that was because he was the only red-headed one in the family, but his mother's whippings cured him of his temper very quickly. That he was indeed a nice boy you may well put down in black and white," said my aunt Jane. "He was a school mate with Bob Nesbit and one afternoon they were trying to break a pair of young calves for oxen. On returning home he said to his mother, 'Why, Mam, Bob would say bad words at them every little while. He said '**Dod dern 'em.**'" "Rob and his brother Tom made from some old lead, bits that they pretended would pass for pennies at the store. They used some of the kitchen cutlery for the purpose of minting their coin. The girls having much hard work to do that day, set out the dinner on the table without a cloth being laid. Whereupon Aunt Jane had this admonition for her sister, 'There, Lizzie, you didn't wipe the table, for that is Rob's bare foot mark, where he has been climbing up to get a knife from the shelf.'" Another testimony of his boyhood was: "Little Rob used to be the most impulsive and wrathful of all of us, which is to be wondered at since he became the most gentle. Many a time when he was being whipped (for in those days they believed in the rod



of correction, and mother did most of the whipping herself,) I have snatched him away from mother, for I could not bear to see the little fellow switched." My Aunt Margaret Welch Beatty said that she once met a man who had been an officer in the Confederate service and whose station was in the Cumberland Mountains. He told how he and Lieutenant Welch had dodged and chased each other many a time when upon their scouting or foraging expeditions. They called Lt. Welch the "Red Headed Woodpecker" and preserved a wholesome caution when near his company or camp.

In the vacation after his graduation from college, my father went with his brother-in-law, Wm. G. Fee, to the oil regions, which were then occasioning great excitement and attracting many to the rough hills of northwestern Pennsylvania. He remained two months on Oil Creek and felt much improved in health by the strenuous outdoor life. He neither made nor lost a fortune, only receiving wages enough to pay expenses and leave a little surplus for consolation.

Diaries for the years 1860 to 1865, kept by my father, are in my possession. Both that which is written and that which may be inferred between the lines have been interesting to me. The year 1860 is his senior year in college. In it he states that his whole college and academic expenses, including books, board, clothes and tuition, were \$545.00; which seems remarkably little for a complete education such as famous old Jefferson College conferred on her many honored alumni. He was an ardent member of Franklin Literary Society, also of the Society of Inquiry (religious and moral), also a member and collector for the Lyceum and a prominent member of the Phi Gamma Delta secret fraternity. He was evidently a faithful attendant upon church





and prayermeeting and was likewise exceedingly careful of his reputation and his honor. He mentions seeing, for the first time, a game of cards. He was very fond of calling upon several of the ladies who were students at the Olome Institute in Canonsburg. He kept up a correspondence with several ladies, which appears, from his comments, to have been of a literary ideal and ethical character. Those ante-bellum days were charged with classic sentiment which in my own college experience of the generation following would have been deemed bosh or bombast. Not only was he a diligent student, but he appears to have been a great helper of others, being both sympathetic and generous. Mathematics was his preferred study. He read Scott's "Ivanhoe" with the remark, "The first novel in two and a half years." After the graduation exercises were over he said "good-bye" to his friends and walked to his home in the late evening, five rugged, meditative miles for the young philosopher.

He commenced theological study under Rev. Herron, pastor of his home church, and taught school through the winter. While at college he had some drill with Jefferson Home Guards, which he joined on May 11th, 1861, but his enlistment for army service was in '62. The work to which his army life brought him was largely scouting and foraging in the Cumberland Mountains of Virginia. Their battalion was an out-guard for the army of the Potomac. He was employed as acting assistant quartermaster during almost all his service.

### CHAPTER III.

#### Gleanings from the Diaries of Lt. Welch.

Oct. 29th, 1862. Claryville, Va. Skirmish. Take 18 prisoners, 164 cattle, 20 horses, and three rebels killed. Fires at his fellow-man for first time. Is complimented for services. Company is elated over the success.

Jan. 22nd, 1863. Sends proposal to Mollie Cowden.



Feb. 24th, 1863. Near Moorefield, Va. With 13 men meet 30 of the enemy; chase them to the mountain; capture 2, several wounded. Three shots aimed directly at him. Gets the very carbine the rebel used. (Now owned by J. M. W.)

April 6th, 1863. Near Moorefield. His company, as reinforcements, check advance of 200 rebels. Skirmish line formed three times. Were 20 rebels lost.

July 17th, 1863. Cherry Creek Fight; capture 17.

July 20, 1863. Skirmishing all day, some few of his force wounded.

July 24th, 1863. Whitehall. Capture five.

At Romney, Winchester, Martinsburg, New Creek, and vicinity he was in the Quartermaster's office. He puts things in better order and renders prompt and honest service. Frequently sent out to guard wagon-train, or takes a squad to forage, search or scout. In every encampment makes pleasant acquaintances with Union families. Particularly mentions J. Welch's family at New Creek. No relation. Frequently lectures on Sabbath day and conducts prayer meetings. Writes a monthly letter to the home papers.

The last of May, 1864. A general campaign to the south under General Hunter for the purpose of expelling rebels from the north of Richmond, against which Grant was hammering. The portion to which **Lt. Welch** was attached advanced through Winchester, Woodstock, Harrisonburg, Staunton, Lexington, Lynchburg, and then westward to Salem, New Castle, Lewisburg, and Charleston, on the Kanawa River. Here they boarded steamboats and went up river to Parkersburg, thence by train to Cumberland, and resumed their old skirmishing and scouting in the mountains of their former camp grounds.

June 5th, 1864. Entering Staunton brought on an engagement with a heavy cannon and musket fire all day. The enemy under Imboden and Gen. Jones withdrew.

June 12th. Lexington. A sharp encounter. One killed in his company, and 3 wounded.

June 18th. Near Liberty. Heavy conflict of the whole battalion. He commanded a detachment supporting a battery. Four days of night scouting and occasional skirmishing follow. Battalion is in danger of being surrounded. Retreat. Army divides in two parts. In 96 hours slept but six. In saddle constantly. June 27th, cut off from supplies. Retreat westward continues. Starvation among



25,000 men. Secures a hog's jaw which is divided with eleven men. Reach supplies that night and are out of danger. March to Charleston, board boats. Has charge of 900 dismounted men upon the return north. In October, 1864, he is sick with fever and chills and is two weeks in hospital. This, the third time disabled by sickness. Obtains two week's furlough the first of November. Goes home and is married Nov. 10th to Mollie Cowden. Mrs. Welch spends nine weeks in camp at Romney and New Creek, during Jan., Feb. and March, 1865. Receives commission as 1st lieutenant, dated Feb. 25th, 1865.

Tuesday, May 30th, 1865. Narrowly escaped with his life. Was on an engine when a fearful collision occurred; just leaped in time to avoid being crushed.

June 2nd, 1865. Was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service, the war being over.

Returning home he established his family at Canonsburg and upon receiving his pay and settling all debts he had about \$1,500. Completing his ministerial training he was settled over the congregation of North Buffalo and died at Taylorstown, Pa., where he had removed upon assuming the pastorate. Throughout his life he was guided by the highest ideals of manliness and honor and manifested a spirit of generosity and affection toward all. His last words were, "What a happy family we shall be there!"

## CHAPTER IV.

### John Welch, of Locust Hill Farm.

John Welch, my grandfather, was born Jan. 12th, 1800, upon Locust Hill Farm, in Washington Co., Pa. He was reared by his older brother Robert, on account of his father dying when he was but a lad, in the year 1809. About 1821 he was married to **Elizabeth Woodburn** and they had nine children, all of whom grew up and were married. He died Nov. 2nd, 1870, of dysentery, and is buried at the Cross Roads United Presbyterian Church, Washington Co., Pa., half a mile from his old home. His will was signed Feb. 18th, 1869, and was probated April 21st, 1873. He was a small man with dark hair and of a dark com-



plexion; in disposition he was genial but not talkative. Mrs. Lizzie Welch McKnight says that she was a little girl when her grandfather lay on his bed of last sickness for several months and that to amuse her would take her dolly by the arms and dance it over the bedclothes and sing:

"Tiptoe, tippytoe, pretty Betty Martin,  
Tiptoe, tippytoe tiptoe fine;  
Wouldn't have an old man  
And a young man couldn't find.  
Tiptoe, tippytoe, pretty Betty Martin  
Will have to change her mind."

Grandfather had then a nice, kind, smiling face. His hair was gray and he was not much wrinkled. His children were: 1, Mary, wed Walter Denny. 2, James Maxwell, wed Jane Lee. 3, Margaret, wed, first, Samuel Ferguson; second, Col. John Beatty. 4, Jane, wed Thomas Harsha. 5, John, wed Susan Henry. 6, Elizabeth, wed William G. Fee. 7, Sarah Ann, wed William W. Cockins. 8, Robert Caldwell, wed Mary Cowden. 9, Thomas Patton, wed Maggie Fee.

As a large part of the purpose of this book is to preserve a permanent record of the various families of the kith and kin, let us make the nine visits necessary to acquaint us briefly with the households that grew from the above marriages. There were ten children in the Denny family, near West Middletown, Washington Co., Pa. 1, Jane, wed Samuel Leiper, and had no children. 2, Lizzie, wed John Wilson, and had two daughters, Annie and Mary. 3, Margaret, wed James Hanna, his third wife and had two children. 4, 5, Laura and John, were twins. Laura wed John Patterson. Her brother did not marry. 6, Sarah, wed Rev. Samuel Stewart and had one daughter, both are dead. 7, Samuel, wed Sadie McCleary and has a family of five. 8, Cora, wed Robert Buchanan and had four children. 9, Alice, wed Marion Ligget





and had four children. 10, Martha, is at her mother's home. There may be more grandchildren than the account takes into consideration.

James Maxwell Welch lived also in Independence Township, about a mile distant from the Denny home. There were seven in his family. 1, Willard, wed Hattie Gourley, no children. 3, Melissa, wed James Hanna, his second wife, had one child, Jane. The 3rd and 4th children, Maggie and Lizzie, died of measles in early childhood. 5, Joseph, wed Annie McNary. He and his family (also his brother Willard) now reside near Sterling, Kan. 6, Annie, wed Finley Ligget and has four children, Lilly and Myrtle and two boys. They live at Pitcairn, Pa. 7, Laura, is married and resides in Omaha, being Mrs. McLaughlin.

Aunt Margaret Welch was first married to Samuel Ferguson and resided a number of years in West Middletown. She had one child that died in infancy. She married a second time, Col. John Beatty, of Carrollton, O. After his death she returned to Pennsylvania and is now living with Mrs. Denny.

Aunt Jane, wed Thomas Harsha and had a family of ten children, and he himself was one of ten. His father, Thomas Harsha, was born about 1775, and died in 1846, or thereabouts; married Jane Hutchinson. His children were as follows: 1, Polly Harsha, wed Andrew Campbell, moved to Wood Co., O., one son Johnston. 2, Peggy, wed Mr. Barnes. A son died in the Civil War. 3, Jane wed Samuel Small; Alex, Tom, Sam, Wm., Boyd. 4, Sally, wed Robt. Cochran and had children, Henry, Tom, Scott, Dorilla, and Esador. 5, Naney. 6, Julie, wed Robert Speer and had Thomas, Stewart, Robert and James, who wed Beekie McMillan, and their children were Nettie, Will, Minnie, Cora, and John. Jane wed Wm. Patterson and had children, Thomas



Latta, Eva, Stewart, Annie B., Boyd, David and Mary. Alex. wed Lida Wallace and had no children; Kate wed Joseph Templeton and had Nettie and Kate. 7, Eliza Harsha, died young. 8, William, wed Harriet Fee, and her children were Wm. Fee, wed a Haine. Eliza wed Alex Houston, Sarah wed Wm. Hutchinson, and Thomas and George single. 9, Thomas Harsha had one daughter by a first marriage and then wed Jane Welch and had ten children. 10, Martha Harsha, wed Samuel Paxton and had three children who married as follows: Thomas wed Lydia Cornelius and had Cornie and Harry; John wed Mollie Morgan and had seven children; Mattie wed David McClay and had James, David, Albert and Maggie, who died young.

Thomas Harsha and Jane Welch, his wife, had 1, Margaret, born Nov. 1855, and died Nov. 1892; wed John Grimes, a farmer: three children, Thomas Clark, who, in his tenth year, on July 3rd, 1892, was killed in the grainfield by a stroke of lightning. Nellie Curtis, and Robert Nevin are the other two. 2, Mary Harsha, wed John G. McPherson. They reside in Philadelphia. 3, Rev. John W. Harsha, wed Dolla Cable, daughter of Silas Cable, of Penrith, Va. They had two children, Louise Hamilton being the elder. Ella Harsha resides with her mother in Washington, Pa., and 6, Thomas Clark and Curtis Elizabeth, were twins. Curtis has been a successful teacher in Pittsburg. Clark is a farmer in Washington County. He married Henrietta McCafferty. His children are Elizabeth, Mary McPherson, Ruby, and Annie Lyle. 7, Rev. Robert Burns Harsha, is pastor of the U. P. Church at Taylorstown, Pa. He is married and has a family. 8, Nettie is a trained nurse. 9, Vance, is a physician at Washington, Pa. 10, Charles Lloyd, is also a physician at Canonsburg, Pa. Aunt Jane died Oct. 18th, 1904,



at Washington, Pa., after a well spent, beneficent life of 76 years.

In the family of John Welch and Susan Henry, his wife, were six children. David Henry, the oldest, was married to Lyda Young and, with four children, resides in Ohio. The others are Samuel, Thomas, Ira, James Herbert, and Roxilena. Thomas resides at Piteairn, while my uncle John and the family live now on his farm near Venice, Pa.

Wm. G. Fee and Elizabeth Welch, his wife, reside in Cherokee Co., Iowa. Mr. Fee devoted a large part of his life to the work of education. He served two terms as County Superintendent of Washington Co., Pa., and also as Superintendent of Cherokee Co., Iowa. His family was large. Mary died in childhood. William Hamilton married Mary Montgomery. John Howard married and died without children. Jennie Vanatta wed Dr. Wm. Durant, of Spencer, Iowa. They have two children. Thomas W. wed Maggie Graham; they have a family and reside on a fine farm near to Quimby, Iowa. Robert Melvin and David Nevin were twins. They and James Herbert are all married in recent years. Dr. Lewis Walter, and Carl are in business for themselves.

The Cockins family was originally from Monaghan Co., Ireland; settled first near Carlisle, Pa., and afterwards removed to Washington Co., where, in 1814, the brick house on the old homestead was built by the grandfather of my uncle. Wm. W. Cockins and his wife, Sarah Annie Welch, now reside in Lawrence, Kan., with William Welch Cockins, a son, and Annie Lee Cockins, a daughter. An older daughter, Eoline McCarrel Cockins, became Mrs. William Tenny. Her daughter, Marguerite Tenny, is living; her son, William Frederick Tenny, died at the age of 6 years in 1897.

The youngest of my grandfather's children was



Thomas P. Welch, who came into possession of the old home farm. He married Margaret Fee, and their children were Ella, who was burned at the fire in the grate when she was a child; Elizabeth wed Owen McKnight and had one son called Owen; Annic Erskine Welch, a bright and sweet girl, died at the age of 14 years. John died when 2 years old. Edward, David, Della and Jane Harsha Welch survive.

## CHAPTER V.

### **Robert Welch, Who Came from Maryland.**

My great grandfather, Robert Welch, was born in 1751, and in all probability in the settlement of Paxtang on the east bank of the Susquehanna river, above the present state capital, Harrisburg. He died Feb. 22nd, 1809, and his grave is at the Presbyterian Church at Buffalo Village, in Washington Co., Pa. His will was signed Feb. 25th, 1788, and is on record at Washington, Pa. Some time after his father's death in the year 1754, he removed to Port Deposit, which is in Cecil Co., Maryland, upon the mouth of the Susquehanna, and was in early times a considerable shipping point. The carrying of grains, furs, produce and lumber from the up-river settlements by flat-boat or raft was an important industry, and it was doubtless in this traffic that the young man engaged after the farm of his father had passed to the hands of older members of the family. It appears that his mother had married a second time, becoming the wife of James Merchant, of Baltimore. This may have had something to do also with the movement of Robert to the south. It is from Cecil Co. that he got his wife, Mary Caldwell. When Robert Welch and his young wife emigrated to the new lands west of the Alleghenies, he was accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Mary Merchant, or Marchant, as the name was called in the broad





Scotch-Irish vernacular of the neighbourhood. This was between 1773 and 1784.

The family of Robert Welch, like that of his son John, consisted of nine members. 1, George, perhaps born in Cecil Co., Md., about 1780, and died unmarried aged about 25 years. 2, William, married Mary Sinclair (also spelled by them St. Clair) and moved to Adams Co., O., (on the Ohio River) about 1820. 3, Robert, his third son, as mentioned in the will, married Elizabeth Dawson, and remained in the old home. 4th, Jane, married Dr. John Dawson and removed to Knox Co., O. (A case in which brother and sister wed sister and brother. 5, Mary married Thomas Stewart and resided near Claysville, Pa. 6, Nancy, wed John Cassil and moved to Knox Co., O., near Mt. Vernon, about 1820. 7, Eleanor, married Rev. James Foster, a Baptist minister, and lived at Grave Creek, Va. He became a Campbellite, and it used to be claimed in the connection that he was the first among that body to suggest the new organization and separate denominational sect. 8, James M., died about 28. He had taught school and was a tailor. 9, John, the youngest, born Jan. 12th. 1800, wed Elizabeth Woodburn and received half of the home farm called Locust Hill.

My aunt, Mary Denny, thinks that George was buried beneath a large oak tree that stood on the farm some distance below the spring, for, as a child, there was some reason why she was forbidden to play there. Possibly Mrs. Mary Merchant, the mother of Robert Welch, was also buried on the farm. Before there were churches there were no cemeteries. Robert Welch and wife are buried at the Buffalo Presbyterian Church.

Of William's family nothing is now known, but of Robert's descendants there is fuller account. He



was born Dec. 6th, 1786, and married on Oct. 16th, 1806, to Elizabeth Dawson, who was born Jan. 16th, 1787. Their children were 1, Mary, born March 26th, 1807, and married Benjamin Anderson, Sept. 7th, 1844; died Feb. 8th, 1845; no children. 2, John, born Jan. 15th, 1809; died Nov. 22nd, 1811, aged 4 years. 3, Robert, born Feb. 1, 1811; married Nancy Vaughn Dec. 27th, 1832; died Feb. 1st, 1892, exactly 81 years old. His children were William, who was scalded to death at the age of three; Robert; Rachel, had four children; Elizabeth, lived in Tennessee; Daniel, died at 20; Edward, a minister, died in Ohio in 1880; Sarah Wallace; Matthew, lived at Lincoln, Tenn.; a second John, born Apr. 22nd, 1813, died July, 1816. 5, Jane, born June 16th, 1815; married John McClay, Sept. 16th, 1843; died Aug. 12th, 1853. She had four children. Sarah J., wed Wm. Morrison; William wed first, Maria Carrothers, and, second, Jenny Maxwell; J. Howard; Robert, wed Rachel Wright and had Anna, John and Maggie. 6, Elizabeth, born Oct. 1st, 1817; married John Gordon May 4th, 1841; had one son, Dr. George Gordon, of Sandusky, O., who married and had at least one daughter. 7, John, the third, born Nov. 22nd, 1819; died Sept. 12th, 1823. 8, Nancy, born Oct. 8th, 1822; married William McKee, July 8th, 1847; no children; died Apr. 18th, 1849. 9, James Pinkerton, born May 20th, 1825; married Mary F. McClelland Apr. 1st, 1825; resided upon the old homestead: his family was of nine members. Ada; Frank; Ella; Robert, died in youth; Maggie, deceased, (married Samuel H. Wilson and had four children, Della, Ray, Joseph and James); Linus, wed Mina Henderson and had a daughter Mary; Warren, wed Grace Finch; William; Carrie Welch, the ninth. 10, Margaret, was born Jan. 7th, 1828; married Owen McKnight



and had four children; Sadie who wed Thompson Cowden, who was son of Mark Cowden. She had four children, Mira, Owen, Mark.....; Joseph Addison McKnight wed Elizabeth Welch, his second cousin, they have one son Owen; Ella McKnight; Florence McKnight wed Clark Smith, no children. 11th, Eleanor, the last of the children of Robt. Welch and Elizabeth Dawson, was born Sept. 28th, 1831, died Aug 16th, 1856.

The family of Dr. John Dawson and Jane Welch, his wife, in Knox Co., O., is little known. There is said to have been a Dawson Book but it has not been discovered. 1, George Dawson, the oldest is said to have married and lived in New Orleans. 2, Eleanor Dawson wed George McFarland. 3, Robert Dawson, married Phoebe Ross and their five children are Mary Ann, married; Loisa, wed Rev. Edghill; Rev. John Dawson, a Presbyterian minister, wed Mary Sutherland; James Dawson; and Emma Dawson. 4, John Dawson, married a Critchfield. 5, Joseph Dawson wed Mary Osborne. 6, Mary Dawson, wed a Critchfield. 7, Elizabeth Dawson, wed a Critchfield. These three marriages, if correct, are somewhat remarkable.

Perhaps Mrs. Edgehill, of Waynesburg, Pa., could straighten out the account of the Dawsons, and possibly Dr. Robert Stewart, of Jefferson Avenue, Washington, Pa., could furnish a fuller record of Mary Welch, who married Thomas Stewart, than what follows:

Eight children are named in the Stewart family. 1st, John, wed Jane McCall, and also reported with eight children who were William McG., wed Sarah McCutcheon, had Alice and Clarence H., who wed Louisa Reynolds; Thomas resided in New Jersey and had a son Thomas; Mary M.; Robert S., a physician, of Washington, Pa.; Jane McCall, wed but



no children; Anna Maria wed Samuel Wright, no children; John White wed Maggie Caldwell, of Buffalo Village, three children, Robert Vance, Irene, and Lloyd; last was James McCall Stewart. 2nd Robert Stewart was married to a Miss Kirk, of Canonsburg, and had James, who wed Anna Miller; Thomas, who was killed in the army; James Reed Stewart, a Presbyterian minister; Mary; another, who became the wife of Samuel Henderson. 3rd, Thomas. 4th, Joseph. 5th, William. 6th, David. All were married, but of their location and families nothing can be said. 7th, Mary, wed James Graham, of Claysville, Pa., two children, Calvin, of Wichita, Kan., and Lenora, who is married. 8th, Elizabeth was twice married.

Nancy, daughter of Robert Welch, wed John Cassil about 1806. He died in 1847 and she died in 1868. They reared their family in Knox Co., O. They had: 1, William; 2, John; 3, Mary; 4, Esther; 5, Nancy; 6, James, of Des Moines, Iowa, born in 1815; 7, Robert, of Howard, Knox Co., O., born in 1817; 8, Alexander, of Mt. Vernon, Knox Co., O., born in 1824, and has three children.

Eleanor Welch, who married Rev. James Foster, of Grave Creek, Va., is doubtless the ancestor of a great host. She herself had ten children, most of whom were married, but of the living generations nothing is now known. Her family was as follows: 1, Mary Foster, wed Bain. 2, Sally Foster, wed Stewart. 3, William Foster, wed Cox, and afterwards remarried. 4, Jane. 5, Louisa, also wed Cox. 6, Nancy, wed Munnell. 7, Hannah. 8, John. 9, James. 10, Thomas.

Leaving the subject of the descendants of my great grandfather, Robert Welch, at such loose ends gives plenty of work to anyone disposed to fill out and correct the details in his own department.





## CHAPTER VI.

### **The Church Relations of the Early Welches.**

Locust Hill Farm, upon which my great grandfather, **Robert Welch**, settled, was about six miles from Canonsburg, and perhaps five miles from Washington. The Chartiers Presbyterian Church, which was organized by Dr. John McMillan about 1776, was one mile south of Canonsburg. In 1798 they petitioned for a charter and among the names of members appear **Robert Welch** and William Welch. There was no Presbyterian church in Canonsburg until 1830. Rev. Matthew Henderson was pastor of the Associate congregation, also known as Chartiers, which was less than a mile west of Canonsburg. It was organized in 1780.

The Upper Buffalo Presbyterian church was organized under the pastorate of Rev. Joseph Smith in 1779. It is situated in Buffalo Village, which is perhaps more than five miles from the Welch homestead. It is here that **Robert Welch** and **Mary Caldwell Welch** are both buried. At the time of his death the pastor was Rev. John Anderson. In 1814 Rev. Samuel Findley was installed pastor of the Associate Reformed congregations of Cross Roads, West Middletown and Short Creek, in Ohio Co., Va. When eventually a church was built by the Cross Roads congregation it was erected about half a mile from Locust Hill Farm. It is at this churchyard that the bodies of grandfather **John Welch** and grandmother **Elizabeth Woodburn Welch** repose.

It is not improbable that **Robert Welch** first attended at Dr. McMillan's church, which was perhaps a bit farther than the Upper Buffalo church. In the year 1807 Rev. Thomas Campbell came from Ireland and was received by the Associate Presbytery, of Chartiers, and appointed to supply the then vacant



congregation of North and South Buffalo. In the autumn of this year Dr. John Anderson was appointed to assist him in a communion, which he failed to do because of doctrinal differences which the good Doctor supposed he had discovered. Presbytery endorsed his action but the Synod, in May, 1808, reversed their action, restored Mr. Campbell to his ministerial standing and labors, with an admonition. His Presbyterial associates did not extend to him a very peaceful welcome upon his return. This contention rendered the peculiar tenets of Mr. Campbell more pronounced. He remonstrated against creeds and Presbyterial discipline, and aspired to a "union of all denominations on the basis of the Bible;" or at least for tolerance for himself on the part of all his neighbouring brethren. In his memoirs appears a statement that while stopping in the home of **Robert Welch**, a respectable farmer of that neighborhood, he prepared the paper known as the "Declaration and Address," which was an appeal for association of all Christian people irrespective of denomination. "For the sole purpose of promoting simple evangelical Christianity free from all mixture of human opinions and inventions of men." This address was made public August 17th, 1809, and the number of those consenting with him was small. Oct. 4th, 1810, "Rev. Thomas Campbell, formerly a member of the Associate Synod, but representing himself as a member of the Christian Association of Washington," applied to be received into ministerial standing in the Synod of the Presbyterian Church. The records show that he was heard at some length but his request was declined. During this period his son, Rev. Alexander Campbell, had come fresh from the University of Glasgow and with a natural eloquence, and forensic ability that was unusual, had taken up the cause upon which his



father seems to have entered by the constraint of circumstance. On May 4th, 1811, a number of those who belonged to the Association were organized into a society with no creed but the Bible. Thomas Campbell was appointed Elder, his son Alexander was licensed to preach the gospel. John Dawson, James Foster and two others were deacons. Two congregations were organized, Cross Creek and Brush Run. The former never attained a prosperous existence and by and by ceased.

It is to be noted that Robert Welch died a few months before his friend Mr. Campbell issued his declaration. The two deacons, John Dawson and James Foster, were his sons-in-law. In the little nucleus termed the Cross Creek congregation were his widow, Mary Caldwell Welch, and his sons, Robert and John, my grandfather, and no doubt his daughters, Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Foster. His son Robert, however, with his family soon became Presbyterian. There is a tradition that Rev. James Foster urged the formation of a new sect.

I have my grandfather's old Campbellite version of the New Testament, published by Alexander Campbell in 1826, in which the last insistence of the new creedless sect is emphasized by the constant use of the term **immerse**.

One result of the intolerant spirit of controversy, which led to exclusion of the Campbells at an era when, perhaps, they might have been reconciled and might have wrought within the church of their fathers a great good, was that my grandfather, when left as the solitary remnant of the Disciples in that vicinity, was not permitted to affiliate with the church which had been built so near his home. All his nine children became members of this congregation and from Rev. J. C. Herron, its pastor, my father received a part of his preparation for the min-



istry. By that time the union of 1858 between the Associate and Associate Reformed denominations had been made under the name of "United Presbyterian" and upon the basis, not known in Campbell's day, of "Forbearance in Love." The chance that located this Cross Roads Church near to the home of **John Welch** brought 5 of his descendants into the ministry of the United Presbyterian church. Yet the old man, with embittered memories of strictly drawn doctrinal lines, remained to his dying day practically without church connection, except as the Campbellites held revival services in distant school houses. In my father's young manhood **John Welch** had confirmed not only an habitual indifference toward religion, but had become more openly addicted to a habit of intemperance, which came to him along with the inheritance of the farm. It is true that this church, under its succession of devout pastors, had lifted the community out of customs which were sanctioned by the old days of the early settler; but my grandfather had chosen to sever himself from these beneficent influences. As is shown by the Whiskey Insurrection in this part of the state in 1794, it was a very general thing for the farmers to distill their rye and corn and dispose of the product more profitably in the liquid form than in bulk. The custom of drinking prevailed everywhere. The cradlers in the harvest field, the workmen at a barn-raising, the guests at a wedding, and the bidders at a vendue or sale, were all to be treated to liquor. The visit of the minister, the detection of symptoms of any kind of disease, a trip to town with a load of grain, were all regarded as legitimate occasions for imbibing. Two great grandfathers, **Robert Welch** and **Peter Linnville**, were distillers in a small way at the time of the Insurrection, and although they took no part in the rioting, yet were required to take the





oath of allegiance as the affair blew over. Upon the death of **Robert Welch** in 1809 his farm descended to his sons **Robert** and **John**, and upon each of the two farms into which it was divided there was an old still house. None of my aunts could remember of its being in operation, although the location of the still-house spring was readily indicated. It must therefore have stopped its pernicious industry before 1830. Mr. John White, whose father once operated the flour mill at Arden Station, two miles from the Welch farm, related an incident which he witnessed in his youth. **John Welch** had taken a load of lumber to Washington and left some grist at the mill. Upon his return he stopped for the flour. Just then the horses became frightened and ran into a fence, throwing the driver to the ground. No damage was done, but the first question put to the rescuers was, "Is my jug broken?" Such tippling tendencies were a great grievance to my father and the others. In his army diary he writes that he had never tasted liquor save as a medicine, and while in ministerial training he delivered several temperance lectures. One of my aunts, Mrs. Harsha, recalled how they were exercised in reading from the old Campbellite Bible, and if any of the children miscalled a word in repeating a verse, grandfather would correct them, for he seemed to know so much of it by heart. Upon his deathbed he had all the children gathered around. They were all members of the United Presbyterian Church. (Father was not then living) He said to them: "It is not the denomination; it is Christ. Be in Christ." There is a touch of pathos in the statement found in his will, "my body is to be interred according to the rites and ceremonies of a Christian community." Such tenacious loyalty to a denomination not highly regarded in his community is akin



to the stubborn fidelity of his Covenanter ancestors in Scotland.

## CHAPTER VII.

### The Caldells Not Found.

Crumrine's History of Washington County, page 707, says that Col. James Allison came from Cecil Co., Maryland, in 1773, with some twenty Scotch-Irish families who settled in the same vicinity. Among them were Scotts, McDowells, Morrisons, Struthers. Norrises, Moffats, etc., In 1805 four brothers, John, Joseph, George and Johnathan Nesbit, came from Cecil Co., Md., and settled near to the farm of **Robert Welch**. Mrs. Denny relates that the Nesbits had been neighbours to the Caldells before leaving Maryland and that upon one occasion Jonathan returned to the east and visited the Caldwell family there. Old **Mrs. Caldwell**, the mother-in-law of **Robert Welch**, was much surprised to see her visitor, and the tradition preserves the heartiness of her greeting in the words, "Lord! Jonathan, is that you?" It has not been possible to extend the research far enough to learn anything of the **Caldells**. In the graveyard of the Upper Buffalo Church, where my great grandparents are at rest, are graves marked "Robert Caldwell, 7th April, 1800, in the 50th year of his age." "Mary Caldwell died Aug. 27th, 1820, in the 52nd year of her age." "Samuel Caldwell died March 29th, 1811, in the 50th year of his age." "Agnes, wife of Samuel Caldwell, Sept. 18th, 1854, in the 85th years of her age." Aunt Mary Denny thought that there was some relationship with these Caldells and her grandmother. The Rev. James Caldwell, born in Charlotte Co., Va., and killed by a British sentinel at Elizabeth Point, N. J., Nov. 24, 1781, and his wife, the daughter of John Ogden, of Newark, shot by a



British soldier in her home at Connecticut Farms, N. J., June 6th, 1780, and who left nine children, have been proven not to have been the parents of **Mary Caldwell Welch**, nor related, although my aunt, Mrs. Cockins, thought they were. See *Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution*, page 324. This is the person of whom Bret Harte has a poem telling how he brought out the psalm-books from his church, while a fight was on with the British and called to his fellow soldiers, "Put Watts into them, boys." Mrs. Harsha thus describes my great grandmother: "She lived to be quite old, 78. (Born 1754, died Feb. 3rd, 1832.) She was as straight as an arrow, slender and active. She was comely looking and refined. Her eyes were dark and her hair gray. At family worship she sang in a fine, low voice. She had the tiniest silver spoons with M. W. on them. Some of them descended to us, but I reckon the children chewed them up, or they were traded off for something else. I remember some old pewter plates and dishes, but she also had some quaint little china cups with the eutest little handles ever you saw. She was of Presbyterian stock, but after her husband's death she and her son John became Campbellites. I was taken in to see her lying in her walnut coffin and her white shroud. She looked peaceful and pretty and had been a good looking woman."

Tradition ascribes to the Caldwells a Huguenot origin. They fled to Scotland after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, where they lived upon an estate called Cold Well, from nine remarkable springs upon it. They came to America from Ireland.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### **Back to Paxtang.**

**James Welch**, was father of **Robert**, my great



grandfather. He was born about 1700, and very probably in South Carolina, near Charleston. He came to the Paxtang settlement on the Susquehanna river in Pennsylvania, about 1727-29, and secured a farm upon the east bank of the river. He died Jan. 28th, 1754, and was buried in the old Covenant-er churchyard, six miles east of Harrisburg, on the Union Deposit road. The same stone commemorates the death of his son James (See Notes and Queries by Dr. W. H. Egle, page 225, Carnegie Library, Allegheny, Pa.)

In memory of  
James Welch  
who deceased Jan-  
uary ye 28d, 1754.  
Also James Welch,  
younger, who dec'd  
Aug. 7d, 1754, aged  
20 years.

This man's will is dated Jan. 21st, 1754, and is recorded at the Court in Lancaster, Pa., Book 1, page 48. It mentions 300 acres of land, £200 in money, three horses, a flock of sheep, a herd of cows and an indentured servant named Michael McDaniel. His wife's name was Mary, and she and the oldest son are appointed executors. There were eight children: 1, John, apparently a soldier in 1758, aged 30 years. 2, Jean, who was married to William Patterson. 3, Thomas, probably the same with a soldier of 1776, from Lancaster Co. 4, James, born 1734 and died 1754, at Paxtang. 5, Ezabel. 6, Mary. 7, Robert, born 1751, and 8, Joseph. "The rest of the land next the river" is allotted to Robert and Joseph. It was but 50 acres. It is not improbable that the widow was a second wife and younger. She married again and we find her in 1787 with her son Robert in Washington Co., Pa., while her husband, James Merchant, did business in Baltimore.





## CHAPTER IX.

### James Welch's Widow.

In the Recorder's office of Washington County, Pa., Book 1, page 50, the following power of attorney is found: "Mary Merchant to William Allen, of Cecil County, Maryland, to recover of James Merchant: to secure maintenance and support as I am entitled to by law, I being his wife; further to secure value of land I permitted him to sell, it being my separate property." Mrs. Denny, the oldest of Grandfather Welch's children has often heard her father speak of 'grand-daddy Merchant.' She thought that Mrs. Merchant had come to Washington County before Robert Welch, and that she lived with him after his arrival. There were several families of Merchants in the county, some were probably step-sons of Mary Welch Merchant.

Samuel Merchant, an Irish immigrant, came to Maryland in 1765, and to Washington County in 1778. In his family was a son John, also Martha, who wed James Proudfit, Prudence unmarried, and Annie, who wed Matthew McConnell. James Merchant and his wife Sarah received patent of farm on Raccoon Creek in 1794. Thomas Merchant was executor for the preceding in 1802. The will gives clothes to brother Thomas, boots to brother Samuel, £5 to brother Samuel's children, \$20 to Rev. Elisha McCurdy, if he settles at Cross Roads. Account of estate of John Merchant, deceased, was rendered March 3rd, 1785, and names children, Ann, Thomas, James, Samuel, Agnes. **Robert Welch** is purchaser of a small table, 7s. 6d.; an open headed vessel, 3s. 1d.; bedstead and cord, 10s. 7d.; cutting box and steel, 3s. All paid. Mary Merchant is also mentioned in these papers. His will in vol. 1, page 43, gives to Brother Samuel share of land, fur hat, pissell-gun, buckskin breeches, care of mother his lifetime, etc. To brother Thomas, his clothes and smoothbore gun. To brother James, cow, crop in ground and cloth, the two sisters to have rent and furniture.

At the time that Dr. Wm. H. Egle was State Librarian at Harrisburg he searched through his unpublished notes of the early families of Dauphin County and gave it as his opinion that the family of the James Welch, deceased in 1754, had removed from the neighbourhood before the Revolution. There was another James Welch in Derry township, of Dauphin County, who was apparently related. There was also a Wm. Welch, from the same county, killed at Kittanning in General Armstrong's Indian expedition in 1756, and



George Welch is a soldier, from the same county, in 1757. In Lancaster County, near Middletown and about Carlisle, were Welch families before 1776. The names, John James, William David, and George, occur.

## CHAPTER X.

### Distant Relationship.

A pamphlet history of a Welch family that early had a branch in Washington County, Pa., was, in 1898, published by Miss Anna M. Mason, of Ashland, Ohio, who is historian for the Family Organization. There has been an exchange of information that has been to the writer's interest. In the introduction she says: "Records of the early Welches are not to be found, but it has been said that a company of men came from Ulster in the North of Ireland and settled in South Carolina near the city of Charlestown. Among them were Welches. Later some members of the family moved north into Pennsylvania and settled in Dauphin County, near Middletown; some as far east as Philadelphia. One grandson, however, settled west of Harrisburg not far from Landisburg, Perry County. From this grandson, Robert Welch, born in June 1735, we trace our descent."

The immigration to America was in 1685. The grandson, Robert, had eight children. Of these James, born 1764 in Perry County settled in Washington County in 1790, living near to West Middletown, died 1840. He had 12 children, among them Abel. My aunt, Mrs. Denny, says that Abel Welch told her husband that when he was a boy there came to his father's home a tailor named Welch who was a young man, short and of a light complexion, and whom his father called cousin. "No doubt this was your great grandfather, Robert Welch, for he was a tailor." Unfortunately, Abel was born in 1804. Robert died in 1809 aged 57. Nevertheless it is certain that the conversation of



these good old men does reveal a relationship. The families lived only ten or twelve miles apart. James M. Welch, grandfather's brother, somewhat older than himself, was born about 1796. He was a tailor by trade and taught school. He died aged about 28 years. He was called Maxwell, after an old bachelor of the neighborhood named Walter Maxwell, who was highly esteemed.

This young tailor, although called cousin, could only have been of the second or third degree, otherwise the families would have had greater intimacy.

There seems to have been relationship with another family of Welches. In the record of wills, vol. 1, page 80, is that of James Welch, Jan. 30th, 1788. His wife Mary receives one-third. Of the children, 1, Robert receives two-thirds. 2, James Steel is to be kept, being an incapable. 3, John receives £30 when 21. 4, Rebecca, and 5, Jane are also named. "I appoint my beloved wife Mary and Robert Welch, taylor, sole executors." Witnessed by Philip Dodridge, Wm. Culbraugh and George Welch. Had the relationship been nearer than that of cousin Robert Welch would have been called brother or nephew instead of "taylor." This George Welch is scarcely Robert's son as he would not be old enough to witness a will. Doubtless it was George of Cross Creek.

Court records at Washington, Pa., of unrelated Welches before 1800:

Daniel Welch buys lot on Pitt Street, Canonsburg, 1799. U. p. 79.

George Welch buys "Raccoon Den" on Cross Creek, 1802. 1 W. p. 189.

John Welch, Jr., of Bethlehem township, buys 7 acres, 1794. 1 K. 231.

James Welch, Dec. 25th, 1791, buys 150 acres for £22. 1 L. 715.

John Welch, Jr., and George Welch, 1793, from John Welch, Sr., of Nottingham, and wife Hannah, in 1795. 1 M. 151.

James Welch buys 271 acres, 1800. 1 Q. 153.



John Welch from Samuel Welch, \$400 worth of stock,  
 1801. Robert Welch, witness. 1 Q. 448.  
 John Welch, Jr., 1 Q 624. 1 S 123. 1 T 603.  
 James Welch, 1792, account rendered by John Welch.  
 W. I.  
 Daniel Welch, Sr., Cecil Township, died of cancer, ac-  
 count of Daniel Welch, Jr., 1800. W, 13.  
**Robert Welch**, great grandfather, account 1810. W.  
 36.  
 James M. Welch, 1829, account by Robert Welch, sons  
 of above. W, 34.  
 Robert Welch, 1 A, 118, of Baltimore town, in state  
 of Maryland, sells lands in 1782.  
 Robert Welch, 1 P, 463, blacksmith, sells in 1799, tract  
 called Falling Spring on Cross Creek, patented to Alex.  
 Nesbitt, and transferred to Robert Welch, heir of James  
 Welch; joins lands of P. Welch.  
 Robert Welch, 1 P. 58, sells, 1799, part of Falling Spring.  
 George Welch, witness.  
 Robert Welch, 1 R. 365, sells 149 acres on Cross Creek  
 1802.

## CHAPTER XI.

### An Olden Time Vendue.

"An inventory of the goods of Robert Welch,  
 deceased, late of Chartiers township, Washington  
 Co., Pa., together with the sales at the vendue." Ar-  
 ticles kept by the widow marked "k."

Article	A' praised	Sale	Buyer
k still, door, and drips....	\$37 50		
k six tubs.....	4 00		
k four cags and 1 funnel	1 00		
Half bushel.....	50		
w augers.....	1 00	1 00	John Dawson
1 auger.....		42	Wm. Henderson
1 barrel.....	40	30	Robert Welch
A brass cock.....	12½	20	Robert Welch
Hand saw.....	25	50	Robt. Hammond
Wheat in barn unthreshed	10 00	11 20	John Henderson
log chain.....	3 00	2 81	Hugh Patton
waggon.....	16 00	15 00	Wm. Starrit
slead.....	1 50	1 10	Thomas Patton
harrow.....	2 00	1 50	Wm. Kerney
plow.....	3 00	1 50	Robert Welch
k an horse.....	30 00		
bay mare.....	20 00	20 00	Robert Welch
dun colt.....	14 00	6 26	Robert Welch
k red cow.....	14 00		
molley cow.....	10 00	9 70	Mary Welch
black cow.....	10 00	10 25	Christian Starr
black heifer.....	6 00	5 50	Wm. Glen
molley heifer.....	6 50	5 25	Wm. Prigg
molley stear.....	3 50	3 55	Robt. Hammond
a buffaloe calf.....	2 50	2 51	Nellie Welch
2 rakes.....one sold	20	14	Samuel Agnew
a cutting box.....	75	2 00	John Paxton





8 sheep (2 kept) 4 sold...	10 00	4 50 Wm. Prigg for 4
2 sold...		2 50 James Manson.
flax break.....	33	50 Walter Maxwell
seven geese.....	1 80	2 00 Thomas Patton
k pair doubletrees.....	50	
sow and 6 pigs.....		4 30 Thomas Patton
k sow and 4 pigs....both	6 50	
k cupboard.....	4 50	
k case of drawers.....	13 66	2 07 Wm. Sinclair
kitchen table.....	1 75	
k small table.....	1 00	1 20 Andrew Morgan
k round table.....	3 00	
Chest .....	66	
k dough chest.....	1 00	
k bed, bedstead, bedding..	20 00	1 00 Thomas Patton
k ditto.....	12 00	
k ditto.....	7 00	
k bedclothes.....	3 00	
k trunk.....	66	
k book shelf.....	25	
dresser .....	1 00	90 Wm. Sinclair
k a wheel.....	1 00	
k old wheel and reel.....	1 50	
big wheel.....	1 00	
horse geers.....	3 00	
old saddle, women's.....	3 50	
k old saddle, man's.....	3 00	18 Robt. Hammond & Robt. Montgomery
4 old sickles.....	50	
k e open ended barrels...	1 25	
k lumber.....	40	3 06 John Crane
shot gun and horn.....	2 00	
k pair tongs and shovels..	1 75	30 Wm. Glenn
ditto .....	25	
k pair fire irons.....	2 00	
k w flat iron.....	66	
taylor's irons.....	1 00	1 00 Wm. Sinclair
pair of steelyards.....	2 50	2 00 Wm. Keany
brass kettle.....	2 00	
iron ditto.....	66	1 00 Neal McCoy
k pot and bake oven.....	1 25	
k tea Kettle and grid iron	75	
k flax hatchel.....	1 25	
k 2 pot racks.....	2 50	
4 hoes (two kept) .....	1 00	54 Alex Young
k 2 Clevises.....	33	Robt. Montgomery
old sythe and screw rod...	40	39 Robt. Montgomery
k pewter.....	5 40	
k 7 tins.....	37	
k 12 delf plates.....	66	
k 2 delf bowls.....	10	
k 3 glasses.....	37	
k pletcher.....	18	
k salver and tea ware.....	1 00	
k sugar pot.....	25	
2 pair old shears.....	25	28 R. Montgomery
candle stick and molds...	25	32 Andrew Duncan
silver watch.....	8 00	6 26 Mary Welch
Vinegar barrel.....	40	
k leather .....	1 50	
Old ax head.....	50	50 Neal McCoy



ditto.....	25	
hammer and flesh fork....	25	17 Robt. Montgomery
2 old spades.....	87	
wearing apparel.....	10 00	
buckskin .....	1 00	
mattock .....	50	
k knives and forks.....	62	
k tubs, 2 pails and bucket	2 37	
k churn.....	66	
k six chairs.....	1 66	
2 chairs.....	1 00	1 00 Alex Young
k 2 hats, 3 pair stockings	3 75	
k 2 looking glasses.....	75	
dung fork.....	90	59 Jacob Morgan
hay fork .....		1 00 Wm. Wallace
k an iron wedge.....	27	
ox yoke.....	50	22 Robt. Welch
a rifle gun.....	10 00	11 55 Wm. Henderson
2 scaps bees (kept one)...	2 50	2 25 Wm. Prigg
k Woolen flax and tow yarn	5 75	
k rye in stack.....	6 60	
k wheat in stack.....	4 50	
k grain in field before door	8 00	
grain before barn door....	1 82	
grain in stack ground....	4 16	
Grain in field of John Dawson .....	3 00	
Breeches pattern .....		1 53 Andrew Duncan
boot legs.....		1 30 Robert McCloskey
Amount of inventory is given at \$415.25 and amount of vendue \$175.16.		

James Agnew's bill makes allowance for \$6.33 for work done in tayloring by Robert Welch in 1801.

My uncle Thomas P. Welch had his middle name from the Pattons mentioned in the sale who claimed some relationship. An aunt has affirmed 'that old Betsy Patton scratched Tom when he was a boy and he was offered at the name and always declared that P. was for Percival.'

Among these old records the signatures of my great grandparents are several times met with, in very creditable hand-writing.

The administrators' disbursements were as follows:

By cash paid	Register for letters of administration..	\$ 2 50
"	Eiriam Spencer for coffin.....	2 00
"	Cunningham and Dill, funeral.....	2 50
"	Wm. Chapman, crying vendue.....	2 03
"	Brown and Semple, Advertisement.....	1 00
"	Alex Little, services.....	25
"	Richard Miller, for county 1808 and 9...	3 31



"	Thomas Acheson, stipends for Mr. Campbell .....	50
"	Wm. Reed, pew money.....	4 00
"	Adam Wylie, Jr., 2 barrels.....	1 60
"	Wm. Henderson, wash tub.....	50
"	Martin Adams on a note.....	60 00
"	Wm. Harsha on a note.....	15 14
"	James Morrison on account.....	13 70
"	Wm. McClain on account.....	4 17
"	Samuel and James Agnew on accounts .....	16 44
"	Thomas Officer, tavern keeper.....	3 12
"	Alex. McElroy, Reynolds C., Neil Th., Patton .....	9 65
"	Administrators .....	12 00
"	Clerk's fee for statement.....	2 00
"	Register fee.....	3 64
"	Clerk of Orphans Court fee.....	1 88
		<b>\$177 45</b>

## Section 2.—A Temperance Lesson.

Bearing in mind that this was but fifteen years after the whiskey insurrection we append two more extracts.

<b>Statement sworn to Feb. 7th, 1810, by Robert Welch, Jr.</b>	
Robert Welch, Sr., Debtor to Robert Welch, Jr., 2½ gal. whiskey @ .50.....	\$1 00
August, 1807, to 2½ gal. whiskey @ .50.....	1 25
Oct. cash lent.....	2 00
July, 1808, 7½ gal. whiskey @ .50.....	3 75
Dec., 8½ bu. wheat @ .50.....	4 25
	<b>total 11 35</b>

<b>Robert Welch, Sr., Debtor to Thomas Officer, Tavern Keeper at Washington, Pa.</b>	
1803. Feb. 11 to gill why. Oct 12, to ½ pnt. why.	
1804, Jan. 10, to 6 pnt. why. Feb. 7, 4 gills, 20th, 3 gills and sup. er.....	57½
Feb. 29th, pint why. and breakfast. Mch. 1st, gill, sup. er, lodging.....	65
Mch. 2nd, 3 gills why.....	
1803. Feb. 11, to gill why.—Oct. 12, to ½ pnt. why.—	
1804. Jan. 10, 6½ pnt. why.—Feb. 7, 4 gills—20th, 3 gills why. and sup. er.....	57½
29th, ½ pint why. and breakfast—Mch. 1, gill, supper, lodging— .....	65
Mch. 2, 3 gills why, breakfast and gill bounce.....	45
to horse at hay, night and day, 12th, gill and 2 half pints why.....	68½
Aug. 22. 2 gills why.—Oct. 22, gill—	50
Nov. 27th, gill and 2 half pints.....	12½
Nov 27th, to gill spirits.....	12½
1805. Oct. 8, to ½ pint why.....	
1806. May 6, to 2 gills why.—May 9th, half pint and gill why.....	31
June 26th, gill—Sept. 5, horse at hay night and day	31
Oct. 14, half pint—Dec. 20, gill why—1808	25
Aug. 5, gill why.....	

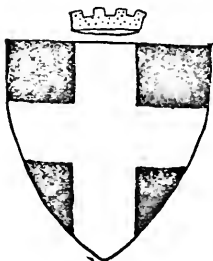
**4 25**



By cash, Feb. 11th, 1803.....	03	c
By cash Mch. 2, 1804.....	1	00
By cash Sept. 6th.....	20½	1 23½
		<hr/> 2.99½
Settled by administrators.....	\$3.12½	

## CHAPTER XII.

### The Woodburn Family is Scotch-Irish.



**Thomas Woodburn**, my great grandfather, was born in 1775 in County Armaugh, in Ulster province, Ireland. He came to America at the age of seventeen in 1792. He was by trade a weaver. He was of Presbyterian stock and it has been said that his great grandsire fought under Cromwell when he

entered upon his campaign of devastation in Ireland, 1649. Thomas Woodburn was married to **Peggy Linville**, in Washington Co., Pa., in 1798. They had fourteen children, all of whom grew to maturity. They lived in a log cabin of large dimensions which Thomas had built in Mt. Pleasant township. The family was well divided, there being seven boys and seven girls. Grandmother, Elizabeth Woodburn Welch was the oldest of the girls and after the death of her mother she took one of her little brothers into her home; this was John Woodburn, then nine years old. He lived with them 14 years. In 1897 a visit was made to Burgettstown, where he and his wife resided. Both were past 80 years. They were unable to give all the names and were not sure of the order of those remembered. 1, Thomas, born 1799, wed in 1832, Clarissa Jackson, of Ohio Co., W. Va. She was born in 1800 and died in 1841. They had four children. Thomas married a second time in 1845 to a Margaret Mc-





Henry, of Allegheny Co., Pa. They also had four children. He died in 1869. 2, **Elizabeth**, born Aug. Aug. 6th, 1801, died Sept. 28th, 1873. She married **John Welch**, and as stated in another place had nine children. She had dark hair and sharp, dark eyes, was tall and graceful, with some color in her cheeks and was a woman of great energy and activity. 3, Susan married William Glass and their children were James, William, Violet and Margaret. 4, Kate married Levi Null. 5, Margaret married Allan Robinet. 6, Samuel married and removed to Tyler Co., Va. 7, Nancy Married John Seaton. 8, Polly wed Sampson Booher, of Booher's Mills, W. Va. 9, Jane married Wm. Steel and had four children, Nina E., Lee, Anna B. and Jennie R. 10, James accidently killed at Thomas' home. He borrowed a gun with which to go hunting. The powder had become spilled from the nipple so that it would not discharge when the percussion cap was snapped. He handed the rifle to his brother Thomas who was at the wood pile chopping. The gun was discharged while in Thomas's hands and inflicted a fatal wound upon his brother. 11, Peter, said to have been a twin brother of John. 12, John wed Margaret Ferguson and had six children. John wed Eliza Ackelson. Mary Margaret wed Milo Morrison. Elizabeth, wed John Farer near Candor, Washington Co., Pa. Francis wed George Miller, of McDonald, Pa. The 5th and 6th were not named to me. Likewise the 13th and 14th of the Woodburn family could not be named at the time of the visit. The children of Thomas, the oldest son, were James, born 1833; William, born Nov 18th, 1835. Being six years old at the time of his mother's death, he was reared by his paternal grandparents. The third child was Thomas. Fourth, Martha wed Marshal Meredith, of Randolph Co., Va. The above





Elizabeth Woodburn Welch.



named William enlisted in my father's company. Aug. 18th, 1862, Co. C., 22nd Pa. Vol. Cav. He married Apr. 16th, 1868, Sarah Meloy and had four children. The children by the second marriage of Thomas Woodburn Jr., were Nathan, killed in battle, Sarah died unwed, Rebecca and Elizabeth.

Shortly after Elizabeth Woodburn was Mrs. Welch she went with a younger sister to visit at her sister, Polly Booher's. A pet bear was chained in the yard. At nightfall Polly's hospitality was taxed to provide sleeping quarters for her guests. So it seems that her husband and her boys slept in the loft overhead and she and her two sisters occupied the bed below. They were wakened by a scratching on the logs of the house, and were told to be still and go to sleep that it was only the bear that had broken loose and he was not likely to run away. Presently the bear managed to push open the door. Mrs. Polly got up to put bruin out. The bear remembering his wrestling tussles with the boys rose to the occasion and resisted. The more she scolded and struggled to escape bruin's rough hugs the more was it sport for the bear. The boys came down the ladder and pulled the bear away from his lightly clad victim. "Mind you, by morning Polly's leg was as black as a pot."

### CHAPTER XIII. *Investing*

#### **Peter Linville Deserves Further Investigation.**

**Peter Linnville**, my great great grandfather, was an early pioneer of Mt. Pleasant township in Washington Co., Pa. The maiden name of his wife, **Chrissie**, is unknown. They reared a family of eight children. 1, Peter, the oldest son, went to Kentucky in early days. 2, Aaron was a soldier of 1812 and was also located in Kentucky. 3, Lewis likewise went to Kentucky. 4, Betsy married Robert



Futhey, of whom it is related that at family worship he would take up the old Bible and invoke the blessing of God on the chapter to be read then proceed with the reading the prayer and psalm. He is said to have been very dark and far from handsome but undoubtedly a good man. Their five children were: Eliza wed Robert Falk. Peter, Lucretia wed Neil, Ann, twin of Lucretia, wed Aaron Welch, and Mary. 5th, **Peggy Linnville** wed **Thomas Woodburn** and were my great grandparents. 6th, Jeremiah, born 1790, died April 9th, 1853, buried at Dutch Forks, Disciples church. In 1897 the place was visited. It was a briery sheep pasture on the summit of a rugged little hill near the road. It was near here that an old Indian Fort stood. In 1811 Jeremiah wed Elizabeth Riley, who was born in 1795 near Winchester, Va. The other children, the 7th and 8th, of Peter Linnville are not known. Jeremiah's family was: 1, Lavinia, died unwed. 2, George W., born Aug. 10th, 1816, married Mary Rogers in 1836, daughter of Francis Rogers. His second wife was Lydia Lucas, whom he married in 1865. There were nine children born to George W. Linnville. 3, Lucretia married Samuel Hanen, of Maidsville, W. Va. 4, Harriet, unmarried. 5, Drusilla, unwed. 6, Cyrena, unwed. 7, Caroline, wed Henry Hilloe, of Wetzel Co., W. Va. 8, Amanda, wed Franklin Fish, of Claysville, Pa. The children of George W. Linnville above, were: 1, Alfred; 2, George; 3, Elizabeth; 4, Mary Jane; 5, Francis; 6, Wilson, who married Oct. 16th, 1884, Ella Condit, daughter of Cephas Condit, of Amwell township. Their two children were Florence May and Harry Willson. 7, Jeremiah Linnville, Jr., a deacon in the Dutch Fork Disciples Church, Donegal township, 8, John. 9, Calvin Terry. 10, Roley, son of second wife and also 11th, Newton. In 1874 the three brothers, Wilson, Calvin and Francis, were located on the home farm.





## Section 1.—A Brave Old Soldier of the Revolution.

Peter Linnville lies buried in the old graveyard at Cross Creek village in Washington Co., Pa. In a pamphlet history of the old burial place, written by James Simpson, of Cross Creek, the inscription of the gravestone is given.

Linnville.  
In memory of  
Peter Linnville  
who departed this  
life April 19th, 1834,  
aged 85 years.  
He was a brave old soldier  
of the revolution.

A search through the state publication "Pennsylvania in the Revolution" and a pretty careful investigation of the Archives of Pennsylvania, has failed to discover an official record of his service. Pennsylvania is credited with 25608 continental soldiers and 7,307 militia. (Greely's American Conflict, page 36) Official records of names and lists now extant furnish only about 5,000 names. Oblivion has been greedy of our patriots. It is said that there are quantities of Revolutionary records possessed by the national government which have been refused publication. It is to be borne in mind that at the Revolutionary era Washington county was not only the frontier border and sparsely settled, but that it was also claimed as a part of Virginia and until 1780 was generally regarded by the settlers as being Virginian because her lands were sold cheaper than the Pennsylvania colony's. There was a company of Virginia Rangers which was made up of the pioneers from the back settlements; so possibly at Richmond, Va., the name of Peter Linnville might be found upon the rolls as a soldier for Independence. Furthermore the period after the war was marked by large and rapid immigration to the new lands because the various states had granted lands to soldiers as a part



of their delinquent pay for services rendered. Linnville may have enlisted from Jersey or Maryland or elsewhere.

There is much investigation that might be made as to when he bought his land, as to whether he was ever examined as a witness as well as looking up the records of other states. I have had letters from my aunts, Mrs. Annie Welch Cockins, Mrs. Elizabeth Welch Fee, Mrs. Jane Welch Harsha, as well as statements by word of mouth from Mrs. Margaret Welch Beatty and Mrs. Mary Welch Denny, clearly affirming that they had frequently heard their mother, Elizabeth Woodburn Welch, speak of her grandfather, **Peter Linnville**, being in the Revolution, and that there was no possibility of doubting the fact.

Aunt Jane Harsha remembers that when she was a child she was taken to visit the Linnvilles on Cross Creek. She and Mary Futhey went down to the spring and watched Peter Linnville with his frail old hands in the cold water, clean a squirrel which he had shot before their coming. "He wore a red shirt and he looked to be about eighty years of age. This would be about 1832, for I think I was a brat of about six or I would'nt have got to go along." (In 1832 Jeremiah would be 42 years old. It was therefore a correct memory that she had seen the old soldier.)

From Ossawatomia, Kan., Mr. W. P. Cowden, grandson of Susan Woodburn, writes: "I used to hear mother talk about her great grandmother, Linnville as she remembered her well. She told my mother a great many Indian stories; said she had stood behind the open door of their cabin at night expecting Indians to approach at any moment as she could see the light of other houses burning and could hear the Indians whooping and yelling; she being



alone at the time, as her husband was in the army." Thus the memory of **Peter Linnville** is preserved in the widely separated branches of the family.

## **Section 2.—Substance for Indian Stories.**

Grandmother Welch used to tell her children tales of **Peggy Linnville's** girlhood. When her father, **Peter Linnville**, was absent, her mother would bar the window shutters to keep in the light of the candle or fire and before fastening the door for the night would take a look around to see that all was safe; and the children would have their mush and milk and be put to bed. They would hear the wolves howling in the winter nights. At first far off, and then nearer, and in the morning they would find tracks about the barn. They frequently fled to the block house because of Indian alarms. She had taught the boys to talk back and forth with Pap and uncle when they were at work in the fields or barn, pretending thus that there were men about in order to give courage to the children and to deter an attack from some wandering Indian scalp-hunter. A few facts may be cited to show the abundant basis for thrilling Indian stories told by grandmothers to the children of more peaceful days.

In 1780, at a sugar camp on Raccoon Creek, 5 men were killed by Wyandottes and 3 boys and 3 girls carried off. 1781, Rice's Fort was attacked, one man killed. Easter Sunday, 1782, Miller's block house on Dutch Forks, of Wheeling Creek, 3 miles from West Alexander, and in the neighborhood of the Linnville's home, was attacked by about 70 Shawnees and Hupp and Miller killed. In Sept. 1781, near Miller's, 5 settlers were killed. 1782, the family of Rev. John Corbally was attacked on the second Sabbath of May. His wife and two children were killed. Two girls were scalped but survived. As



late as 1792, in this Dutch Fork vicinity, an old lady named Nancy Ross was killed, also a young woman named Crow. The camp of Catfish, or Tingooqua, a peaceable Indian of the Kuskuskee tribe was on the grounds of Trinity Hall in the town of Washington. Near Canonsburg, on Chartiers Creek, a Mingo named White Eyes, camped and trapped and traded. At the mouth of Chartiers dwelt King Shingass with a small number of Mingo families. He was then old and his once ferocious spirit was subdued. He probably shed no blood in Washington Co., but is credited with massacres in the valley of the Conna-cohegue as early as 1750.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### **An Interesting Field for Ancestral Research.**

It has been shown that **James Welch**, of Paxtang, born about 1700, was of Scotch-Presbyterian stock and that his people came to Pennsylvania from South Carolina about 1729. He was probably born there, near Charleston. Who were these South Carolina Welches whose immigration from Scotland is assigned by the tradition to 1682?

That was three years after the defeat of Covenanter hopes at Bothwell Bridge. "During the years 1682 to '84, the troops continued to harass and persecute the people. The soldiers pillaged farm houses, exacted free quarters, levied enormous fines, seized and imprisoned all who were refractory. Many of the Covenanters were shot down without trial!" MacIntosh's History.

There was every inducement to leave such a Scotland if it were possible to get away. Such as escaped came in poverty. There was already a Scotch-Irish settlement near Charleston, S. C.

There is on record, at Charleston, a short will,





Year	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Charles II	1700	1710	1720	1730	1740	1750	1760	1770	1780	1790	1800

K. Charles II.

09 Robert Welch 51

There are  
3 claims to the  
blood of Knox.

Very probable

claim  
Knox  
decent  
Welch

94 Rev. John Witherspoon, Jr.  
Signer of Declaration.

Signer of Declaration.

Rev. James Witherspoon

Annie Walker

Rev David Walker

Jane Welch-Carlyle

Dr. John Welch and Grace Welch

John Welch of Penfyllan

John, died young

## Jahn. in Rebellion

Then a long line of Johns  
Lairds of Craigenputtock,  
(16 miles from Dumfries)  
back to Knox."

It is likely that Welch of Irongray was the only Knox descendant of his time

51  
James Welch

Welch of S.C.

210 mms

2043

Rev. John Welch of Irongray

Wife and

Rev Josias Welch

Dr. T. W. Hill

Rev John W.

1031.

John Knox

Margaret Stuart

and wife 1564

54

What Know

(b) (7)(C),  
FOIA

Sine

Andrew Stuart 2nd

Andrew Stuart 1st L. Ochiltree  
wed Margaret Hamilton

Walter Stuart, James Hamilton

of Morphie } 1st Earl Arran.

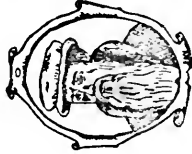
James Hamilton  
wed Mary Stuart

Robert Stuart  
King James II

1- Duke Highway  
Miss R. L. Pitt  
1931 - 1940

00041 — 15111 OT122001 built

1516-1390





dated Aug. 30th, 1735, in which Walter Welch bequeaths a store to his father Thomas.

A story existed amongst us before any effort had been made to trace the ancestry beyond my grandfather John Welch's birth in 1800, that our line of Welches were descended from John Knox the reformer. All my aunts spoke of having heard of it and appeared to give it serious credence. The earliest of those who 'used to tell about it' seems to have been grandfather's sisters, who were personally acquainted with James Welch's widow, and although he died in 1754, he was likely born in South Carolina and his father was probably the Scotch immigrant of 1682.

This tradition would scarcely arise and persist among people who, for three generations, were plain farmers unfamiliar with the details of Scotch ecclesiastical history of the previous century, unless it were a fact. If it were a fact, we might expect that the line of descent would be forgotten in its particulars but be retained as a tradition with some modest pride. Such has been the case.

The probability of this tradition is somewhat strengthened when the religious connections of the family and the discovery of its existence in colonial times are taken into consideration. The incidents are so obscured by the flight of more than two centuries, that it is doubtful if ever it can be proved either true or false.

The existence of other claims to descent from Knox in respectable quarters, but not established with any more certainty, might be taken to indicate that Knox had descendants after Bothwell Bridge.

By reference to the chart it will be seen that a black line indicates where the ascent and descent are lost in obscurity, though they might with more probably be regarded as continuous.



Rev. John Welch, of Irongray, was the grandson of Elizabeth Knox. He was one of the most influential ministers in Scotland in his day, and died at London June 9th, 1681, in his 69th year. An exhaustive study leads to the opinion that his was the only line in which John Knox had descendants. The point we wish to bring out is that Welch, of Irongray, also had descendants. In Woodrow Society's Biographies, Albany, N. Y., 922:54 T 91. Vol. 1, page 10, "John Welch, of Irongray, ejected in 1662, (for nonconformity) went with his family to reside in the parish of Parton."

A book by Rev. James Anderson, Redfield, N. Y., 1855, entitled Ladies of the Covenant, on page 214 says: "In the beginning of 1674, Welsh went over from Edinburg with his wife where he spent about six weeks in preaching." He usually went about accompanied by a guard of ten or more horsemen for there was a price set upon his head. Scot's Worthies, page 422, relates that Richard Cameron was licensed to the minstry by Mr. Welch and Mr. Semple. He was assigned to preach among the rough people of Annandale. Welch said, "Go your ways Richie, and set the fire of hell to their tale." He went and called them 'Offspring of thieves and robbers' and 'some of them got a merciful cast that day.' From Burton's History of Scotland the following is culled:

The Covenanters were mainly in southwestern Scotland and at the date of the battle of Bothwell Bridge, 1679, were about 15,000 or 20,000 in number. The Covenanters were not all who loved the Covenants, but only those whose religion was extreme enough to regard Charles II as a usurper of government that could be held by no human hands unless acknowledged as a trust for Christ; and to regard such ministers as had taken oaths of loyalty and were indulged to preach as being perjured to the Covenantants and to Christ and beyond all Christian fellowship, and to regard all Scotland other than themselves, whether Presbyterian, Episcopal, or nothing, as lost souls, traitors and enemies. The fact is, a most noble movement of patriotic and religious zeal for liberty had fallen under the



control of fanatics who carried with them many good and worthy men, by reason of association with the cause at an earlier period, into extravagance of action and declaration far beyond their wish. Faction dissension, and a lack of wise and able military leaders wrought their ruin.

John Welch, of Irongray, came to Bothwell with a body of Ayrshire recruits. He was not one of the actually indulged,—the enemy of mankind himself might as well have openly joined them as such an one,—but Welch had shown a hankering after those lost men. His presence and the influence he swayed over his followers was an exasperation to the more extreme. While unable to secure a moderate policy and later unable to persuade them to consider Montrose's terms of dispersion and surrender, he has the honor of being considered the soberest counsellor of the day. The battle found the Covenanters unorganized, disunited, a hapless deluded rabble.

Hamilton, their nominal leader, had no military experience. He is said to have been occupied only with the erection of gibbets and the provision of several cartloads of rope for the execution of such prisoners as the Lord would give them. Welch's course was not that of a trimmer, for he was not of the stock that breeds a coward. He was contending for freedom to preach. He had the credit of inventing that form of field preaching called a conventicle, and, for twenty years, had been ceaseless in holding them, baffling the armed parties that were sent to the hills to capture and disperse them. There was a proclamation against him to the effect "that the said John Welch does presume frequently, that is once every week, to preach in the parish of Irongray, in the Presbytery of Dumfries, and himself and those who frequent his conventicles do convene together, armed with swords and pistols." He was under denunciation as a rebel ever since the Pentland Rising, 1666. While he had not been in the battle yet he had thrown in his lot with the defeated remnant as their pastor and counsellor. Even 12 years after on account of the price set upon his head as an outlaw which was 3000 merks, he usually travelled with a body of armed friends. This was charged to the discredit of Presbyterianism in general as if the whole of them were up in arms.

In 1672 the Laird of Balhouse was fined 1000 pounds for harbouring Welch. The Laird of Riddie was likewise mulct to the amount of 2,000 merks for the same offence. In 1676 he went to England, a price of 9,000 merks being then offered for him, but the next year he was again heard in Scotland. He is said to have preached often upon the ice of the River Tweed ready to fly either to England or Scotland or to dispute the jurisdiction of his captors. In 1674 he preached in Fifeshire and Perthshire to audiences of eight and ten thousand. Irongray, the





parish from which he was ejected, was the birthplace of his grandfather, Rev. John Welch, of Ayr. It is also said that he died at Wapping June 9th, 1681, in his 69th year and was buried in his grandfather's grave at London, it being the first funeral service in which the prayer book was not used.

Rev. Josias Welch, of Temple Patrick, was born 1590, died 1634. He was educated at Geneva and Glasgow and became Professor of Humanities in Edinburg University. He went to North Ireland in 1626 settling at Six Mile Water. His eloquence secured him the title of Cock of the North. He died June 23rd, 1634, of a 'defluxion' brought on by preaching in the open doorway to a crowd that could not be contained in the house. He left a wife and only one child. His last words were "Victory, victory forevermore."

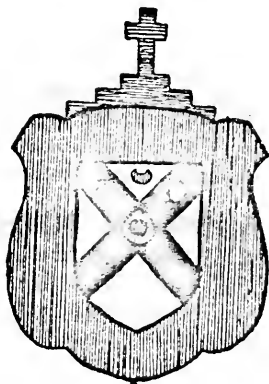
Rev. John Welch, of Ayr, born 1558, died 1622, wed Elizabeth Knox, born 1569, died 1625, daughter of John Knox and Margaret Stuart, his wife. John, in his youth, was wild, joined a band of smugglers, but was reconciled to his father by his aunt Agnes Forsyth and then given a gentleman's education and became a minister. The children of Rev. John Welch, of Ayr, were 1, William, who studied medicine and was accidentally killed in the Netherlands. He left one daughter, Margaret, who died single in 1633. 2, Nathaniel, a minor at his mother's death, in 1625 was lost at sea. The ship was wrecked on one of the barren coast islands. His body was afterwards found in the attitude of prayer where he had starved to death after having reached the shore. 3, a daughter, who died in 1614 in France while a child. 4, Rev. Josias. 5, Louise, born in Jonsae, France, 1613, where her father was many years in exile. She died unwed.

John Welch, of Coliston, in the parish of Dun-



score, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, bordering on Craigenputtock, was born about 1520 and died in 1568. He wed Marion Grier and had five children. 1, David. 2, Cuthbert, who had two sons at least, Thomas and John. 3, Rev. John, of Ayr. 4, Margaret, who wed Hector Maxwell. 5, Marion.

Many interesting features of the lives of John Knox and of John Welch, of Ayr, may be found in Scot's Worthies., in the Maitland Papers. The Woodrow Biographies. The Life of John Welch by James Young, 1866, Edinburg, and various lives of Knox and in the large histories of Scotland.



From the chart it will be seen that none of the three claims to descent from Knox show a perfect line and that all of them, without any possible conclusion, have their claim through the Welch line. Possibly the Carlyle claim that Lairds of Craigenputtock lead back to the three ministers and to Knox is dubious as it is not certain that any of the ministers were possessed of estate, and it is not likely that Rev. John, of Ayr, was the oldest son. The inheritance of Coliston probably passed to Cuthbert or



David. Rev. John Welch, of Irongray, mentions in a letter that he attended the funeral of John Welch, of Coliston, who left a daughter Helen.

It will also be seen that the chart gives a direct line of ascent from Margaret Stuart to James II of Scotland. If one is disposed to follow that trail and to go genealogizing among medieval thrones he may count dozens of kings of Scotland, England, France, Norway and Russia, his cousins, and be no wiser or better thereby.

To an American a coat of arms is not an added dignity and it does not give as much warmth as an overcoat. There are some twenty-three various styles of arms assigned to ancient Scotch families of the name of Welch, most of them are very evidently of later origin than 1600.

There were families of that name at an earlier date in the neighborhood of Dumfries, at Coliston, Skarr, Cornlee, Collin, Burnfoot, Capel Gill and elsewhere.

The earliest blazonry is for Walch. Argent a saltire sable charged with an annulet or surmounted by a crescent gules. The inner shield of the design at the beginning of the Welch narrative depicts this.

The addition of other annulets, of the cross crest, of an inner shield or of a bordure gules, are later modifications as branch families became distinct and wished to be fashionable. Since neither the three ministers nor their worthy father cared for such insignia it is not unlikely that the first bestowment of arms was prior to 1500.

The name Welch, Welsh, Welshe, Walch, Walsh, as it is variously spelled, might arise in many different cases. If a man from Wales or speaking the ancient British tongue of Strathelyde, moved to a new community he would be called Welsh. The name Wallace is of the same origin. The Saxons who



came to aid the Britons against the Piets after the island had been abandoned by the Romans, despised the Romanized British and wrested their lands from them and called them the Welsh.

As our record has shown, the true Scotch spelling is Weleh, although each generation of the family has used either an s or a c indifferently. The earliest instance of the name is that Henri le Gayleys was mayor of London in 1298. This is Norman for Henry Welsh. Of the early Scottish stock it is found that Nicol Welch was abbot of Holywood, near Dumfries, in 1488, and that the burg of Dumfries was represented in Parliament in 1472 by T. Welch. So common is the name in modern times that in the lists of Pennsylvania revolutionary soldiers there are more than 100 Welshes, and in the directories of cities like Chicago, Boston, New York and Philadelphia, there are usually from ten to twenty pages of them.



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